

# THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, 30th December 1953.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

## I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### STARRED QUESTIONS.

*Number of conspiracy cases withdrawn by the Government.*

\* 21 Q.—SRI M. K. M. ABDUL SALAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of conspiracy cases that have been withdrawn by the Government from 1st April 1952 to 30th September 1953;

(b) the grounds on which they have been withdrawn; and

(c) the total amount of money spent on those cases?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“(a) Four.

“(b) In view of the present attitude of the political group to which most of these accused owe allegiance and inasmuch as they are not now resorting to violence but are concentrating on work in the Legislature and on agitation in the press and platform, Government felt that it was desirable to show clemency and encourage them to adhere to a peaceful policy and ordered withdrawal of the conspiracy cases referred to in clause (a) above.

“(c) The total expenditure incurred by the Government in connexion with these conspiracy cases is nearly Rs. 37,000.”

SRI M. K. M. ABDUL SALAM :—“Is there any proposal to withdraw the appeal preferred against the conviction of the followers of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, in view of the fact that there is a big agitation from the public in this regard?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“Sir, I have given the utmost consideration which led to the withdrawal of the cases referred to by me. I do not think the consideration now proposed, namely, public agitation, should be taken into account in matters of crime.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister, in view of the very good reasons he had stated in his answer for the release of prisoners, whether the Government will also release those prisoners who have been convicted in the conspiracy case and who are now still in prison?”

[30th December 1953]

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—**“ If the reference in the supplementary question is to persons who have been convicted in the conspiracy case involving grave crimes, I submit, Sir, that the position does not stand alike.”

**SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—**“ I would like to know from the Hon. the Chief Minister as to what exactly was the nature of the conspiracy? Was it to subvert this Government or any particular Minister or was it an attack on the Government as a whole or against some Ministers, because from the answer given by the Hon. the Chief Minister it appears that the cases involved in the conspiracy are not of the same type? ”

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—**“ I do not know which conspiracy the hon. Member Sri Chakkarai Chettiar refers to. If he is referring to the conspiracy involved in the case that I had just referred to, that conspiracy was to commit grave and serious crimes involving violence and was simply politics.”

**SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—**“ May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether there were not cases of conspiracy involving graver crimes than this wherein the sentences have been commuted by the Government? ”

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—**“ There are reasons for commutation and when there are sufficient reasons for commutation, such commutation is done by the Government.”

**SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—**“ Coming to a particular case, viz.. the Tirunelveli Conspiracy case, wherein Baladhandayutham and others were recently convicted, would the Government reduce their sentences or reconsider their case in view of the policy now enunciated by the Hon. the Chief Minister? ”

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—**“ With reference to the case just now mentioned, which was concluded the other day, the prisoners concerned began to resort to hunger-strike for the purpose of getting their release. The Government could not tolerate prisoners going on fasts with the definite object of forcing the Government to release them from undergoing the punishment imposed on them after a full trial. The particular case just referred to involved a very bad type of murder. A person who left their party was hacked to pieces and the members of the body were distributed in several places. I need not go further into the details. They took over the function of the State. They held a trial and disposed of their enemy in that manner. This is a very serious case. Anyway we cannot go into the merits of the case. They have been convicted and there is no appeal and they are undergoing their sentences and when the time comes, Government will not be too harsh but will examine even such cases.”



30th December 1953]

**SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW** :—“ Does the Hon. the Chief Minister know that the hunger-strike of the prisoners just now mentioned was resorted to not for release but only for release on bail? ”

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—“ No, Sir, it was definitely for release altogether. I wish it were only for release on bail as stated. But there is no question of release on bail after conviction, when there is no appeal.”

**SRI MOHAMAD RAZA KHAN** :—“ May I know who is responsible for effecting this radical change over these people who have left violence altogether and have taken to constitutional agitation either outside or within the Legislatures? Who has brought about this magical change, Sir, in their minds? ”

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—“ I think the non-Gentleman Mr. Gurunandan Row was making a mistake confusing some other hunger-strike of some prisoners with the present one. The prisoners involved in the present case went on a hunger-strike after refusing to appeal against their conviction and for total release. I am glad to say that they have given it up under the advice of their party leaders. But as regards Balathandayutham I cannot say anything definitely. I have no information on hand whether he had accepted the advice of his party or not. I wish he accept his party's advice. It is possible.

As regards the supplementary question as to what had been responsible for the change in the party's attitude, I think experience and wisdom come to ordinary human beings in course of time in every case.”

*Allotment of non-Andhra personnel to Andhra State.*

\* 22 Q.—**SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR** : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to follow any principle of age group among the non-Andhra personnel to be allotted to the Andhra State?

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—“ The allocation of officers to the Andhra State was made in accordance with the policy which was endorsed by both the Houses of the Legislature of the composite State. Non-Andhras were taken only to the extent that was considered unavoidable by the Special Officer for Andhra affairs and his Committee consisting of three Andhra leaders. The question of taking Non-Andhra officers in different age groups did not, therefore, generally arise. In regard to the All-India Services, however, an attempt was made to take, as far as possible, officers at different levels of seniority.”

**DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR** :—“ May I know, Sir, whether there was any similar arrangement between the residuary Madras State and Mysore State with regard to transfer of personnel to either State? For instance, taking Bellary district,

[30th December 1953]

which was handed over to Mysore Government without their request, may I know whether there was any understanding between Madras and Mysore in regard to transfer of personnel? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" There was no discussion in the Committee on that part of the matter. But every attempt is being made to accommodate the Mysore Government in a proper way. I think there has been fairly easy disposal of the difficulties and the matter is still pending. If the hon. Member were to put a separate question, I will be able to answer with better information."

11-10 a.m. SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether the Andhra State responded by adopting a policy of reciprocity in regard to Tamilian officers, if any, in the Andhra State? What is the attitude of the Andhra Government towards them? Is it on the lines of the attitude of this Government, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The question and the answer related to non-Andhra officers in Andhra."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" I am talking of Tamilian officers in the Andhra State, if there are any."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have answered about non-Andhra officers including the Tamilian officers in the Andhra State and I have given the correct information. I do not exactly follow what the hon. Member has in his mind."

*Reorganization of the Madras Secretariat.*

\* 23 Q.—SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of clerks affected by the recent reorganization of the Madras Secretariat?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" No clerk appointed regularly has been affected by the recent reorganization of the Secretariat. About 75 clerks appointed under the emergency provisions had to be ousted immediately after the reorganization, but almost all of them have since been absorbed in temporary vacancies."

*Subsidy to Rural Medical Practitioners of Modern Medicine.*

\* 24 Q.—DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to increase the subsidy given to the Rural Medical Practitioners of Modern Medicine?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The answer is in the negative."

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—" May I know how many rural dispensaries have been closed during this year for want of Rural Medical Practitioners on account of poor subsidy? "



30th December 1953]

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ I have no information regarding this year. But so far 31 Rural Dispensaries of Modern Medicine and 31 Rural Dispensaries of Indigenous Medicine are said to be remaining closed for want of medical men.”

*Quarters to the Medical Officers of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.*

\* 25 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any quarters have been allotted by the Government to the Medical Officers of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram;

(b) whether the Superintendent and other Medical Officers of the Sanatorium are residing at Tambaram; and if not, why not;

(c) the number of female wards in the Sanatorium and the average number of women in-patients for a month; and

(d) the number of women Medical Officers working in the Sanatorium?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (a) Two quarters have been allotted by the Government for two Assistant Surgeons. One room has been provided for T.D.D. students and four rooms are also provided for four paid house surgeons.

“ (b) The Superintendent and the Medical Officers of the Sanatorium except those mentioned in the answer to clause (a) above are not residing at Tambaram as no quarters are provided for them.

“ (c) Eight wards and one hundred and fifty patients respectively.

“ (d) Only one Senior Woman Assistant Surgeon is at present working in the institution.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know what steps the Government are taking to provide quarters in the Sanatorium compound for the Superintendent and other Medical Officers? ”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ Quarters for hospital workers are considered more urgent than quarters for Medical Officers, since the majority of hospital workers have to come from long distances.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ Is not the efficiency of the Sanatorium highly affected by the non-residence of the Superintendent and other Medical Officers at Tambaram? I learn that the Superintendent is daily going from Madras to the Sanatorium.”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ No, Sir. The Superintendent has got a phone and at any moment of emergency he can go within twenty minutes to the Sanatorium.”

[30th December 1953]

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ The Hon. Minister stated in his reply that there was only one Woman Medical Officer for the whole Sanatorium. May I know whether the Government have considered the desirability of posting adequate number of Women officers? ”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ A Senior Woman Assistant Surgeon was posted on the 25th July this year. There is a proposal to appoint another Woman Medical Officer.”

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—“ Is it a fact that the incidence of tuberculosis is more in the case of ladies than in the case of men? If so, will the Government kindly make it their policy to provide more wards for ladies? ”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ Less number of women patients are seeking admission, Sir.” (Laughter.)

*Reservation of seats for students of Scheduled and Backward classes in the Arts and Professional Colleges.*

\* 26 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules for the reservation of seats for Scheduled classes and Backward communities in regard to admissions to all State-aided Arts and Professional Colleges; and

(b) if so, whether these rules are being strictly followed?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ (a) & (b) No specific percentage has been fixed for reservation of seats for the Scheduled castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes in the private colleges and the Universities in receipt of aid from the Government but the managements of aided Colleges and the Universities have been requested to extend their fullest co-operation in the matter of encouraging the higher education of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the other Backward Classes. Most of the managements are co-operating with the Government.”

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—“ Will the Hon. Minister furnish figures regarding the number of students of Backward Communities who have been admitted into these Professional Colleges? ”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ I have got the figures. If the hon. Member is interested, he may put a separate question or if he asks for information, I will supply him.”

*Child Beggars in the City.*

\* 27 Q.—DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of child beggars are found in thoroughfares and in places of heavy traffic in the City of Madras;



30th December 1953]

(b) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the police to take them into the custody of the Madras Children Aid Society; and

(c) whether the Government are contemplating on any comprehensive legislation to put down public begging by the able-bodied, diseased and disabled beggars and to provide work houses for the able-bodied and hospitals and infirmaries for the disabled and the diseased beggars, respectively?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) Children under 14 years of age found begging in public places are rounded up by the Police and dealt with under the provisions of the Madras City Police Act and the Madras Children Act, i.e., they are taken to the Reception Homes (which were hitherto under the management of the Madras Children Aid Society and which have since been brought under Government management) and detained there, till their cases are disposed of by the Juvenile Courts. Apart from this provision, no special instructions have been issued by the Government to the Police in the matter.

“(c) The answer is in the negative.

“The existing provision in the City Police Act dealing with beggar problem is adequate and no new legislation on the subject is contemplated. The Government have under consideration a proposal to open a Special Home and a Work House for beggars in or near Madras City, in addition to the ‘Work House’ and ‘Special Home’ already established under the management of the Corporation of Madras.”

DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—“It is stated in the answer that children under 14 years of age are rounded up by the Police and admitted in the Reception Homes. Some of us have noticed that even children under the age of 5 are allowed to beg in public places and in places of heavy traffic. I have seen this myself and I hope hon. Members would have noticed this. Even nursing babies are allowed to beg. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether strict instructions will be issued to the Police to carry out the provisions of the Madras Children Act, as we find that these provisions are not now strictly enforced?”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“The Government are aware that some of these young children are being utilised by elders for the purpose of begging and we are trying to tackle that problem.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that according to a survey conducted in the City on the 8th of November by the Madras School of Social Work, 1,888 children below the age of 12 were found begging in the streets of the Madras City? Now, if there is adequate provision as mentioned by the Hon. Minister, how does it come to pass that so many thousands of children are still begging in the streets?”

[30th December 1953]

**THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM** :—" Sir, the City is a large one. It is rather difficult to tackle every beggar going about. As a matter of fact, these children show a disinclination to go to the Special Homes. That is why we find that these boys and children are begging even now."

**11-20 a.m. SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY** :—" Are these children born of parents living in Madras or do they migrate from surrounding districts on account of the prevalence of famine conditions there? "

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—" The impression of the Government is that these children do not belong to the City but come from outside. They are attracted by the upper and the middle classes, who are available for being asked to give charity, being concentrated in Madras."

**SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV** :—" Is the Hon. the Chief Minister aware that though these children come to the juvenile courts, for want of accommodation we just give them a reprimand and send them back to the poor homes in their districts if there are any and in other cases, we simply give them a scolding and send them back, and they repeat this over and over again and that some facilities should be provided for these children, Sir? "

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—" We are thinking of providing more space and of expanding the scope for putting these unfortunate people in care homes."

**SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI** :—" Is the large influx of children into the City due to the non-existence of proper beggar homes in the districts and, if so, will the Government force every local body, especially municipal councils, to open beggar homes at least in the district headquarters? "

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—" We can do that along with a cheque to make up for their deficit."

**DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU** :—" Is it a fact that the children beg because they get a fairly large income from begging? "

**DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI** :—" I was an Honorary Secretary of the Madras Children's Aid Society for a period of ten years when the Society was being organized and may I say that if the children are properly sheltered, protected and trained for earning some livelihood, they will never resort to begging at all? "

**THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI** :—" If the children are looked after as they are looked after in the Avvai Home, they will not resort to begging. But it costs a great deal."

**SRI MOHAMMAD RAZA KHAN** :—" As the Hon. the Chief Minister said that most of these children came from the mufassal will the Government think of levying some tax on the mufassal people so that those coming from the mufassal may be provided with proper beggar homes in the City of Madras? "



30th December 1953]

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ That most of the people who earn a livelihood and have occupations are living in Madras and are inclined to continue to live in Madras is the reason for attracting these people who depend upon charity from them. That is a natural law. As a matter of fact, the Government are taxing the mufassal people in all matters.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Do the Government realise that begging is only a symptom, the root evil being poverty, and will they take active action for eradicating poverty? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ The thesis of the hon. Member is accepted. But that is only a partial one. We must add to it this, viz., that the resources of the Government depend upon the prosperity of the people.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—“ May I know whether begging is not a habit? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ All things become a habit.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ May I know whether begging has not been in vogue ever since the world came into existence? ”

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ There is a large increase in the number of child-beggars in the mufassal also and how will the Government explain it? Is it due to migration from the City? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ There is an increase everywhere—in the small towns, in the big towns and in the Cities also. Comparatively the City of Madras has a very much larger number and people coming from very great distances are found here.”

*Principles regarding re-employment of retired officers.*

\* 28 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(a) the general principles followed in the re-employment of retired officers of Government; and

(b) whether the availability of qualified men in service is taken into consideration before ordering such re-employment of retired officers?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ (a) The general policy of the Government is not to re-employ retired Government servants. In view, however, of the paucity of persons with the requisite technical knowledge and experience in

[30th December 1953]

certain specialized departments of Government, re-employment of retired technical personnel is allowed at present in the Public Works (including Electricity and Highways), Survey, Medical and Health Departments and in Treasuries.

“(b) Yes.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ May I presume that re-employment will not be followed as a general rule in the departments other than those mentioned by the Hon. Minister? ”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ That is not the general rule in other departments.”

*The North Arcot Co-operative Pumpset Society at Vellore.*

\* 29 Q.—DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) when the North Arcot District Co-operative Pumpset Society at Vellore was formed; and what its share capital is; and

(b) the number of pumpsets purchased by the society so far?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ (a) The Society was registered on 3rd February 1941 and started work on 16th February 1941. Its share capital on 20th November 1953 was Rs. 93,650.

“(b) Fifty-six pumpsets have been purchased by the Society.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ May I know whether it is a fact that many members in the Gudiyatham taluk have taken loans for purchasing pumpsets and submitted false reports of purchase of pumpsets from bogus companies (which never existed) and without actually purchasing them? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ There have been complaints with regard to the working of this Society and counter-petitions to say that these allegations are wrong. The Government are examining the matter very carefully.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ May I know whether a supersession notice has not been served on the President of the Society? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ I should like to have notice of this question.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ I have already given notice of this question also. May I know whether loans have been granted to members of this Society without taking legal opinion on them? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ That is one of the allegations. That is why I said that we were looking into the matter.”



30th December 1953]

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ Is it a fact that the President has given unauthorized loans to most of his relatives? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ These are common allegations with regard to the working of every co-operative society in this State. This allegation has been made with regard to this particular Society also. We are investigating the matter to find out if there is any truth in it.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ How many members of this Society have become defaulters? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ I should like to have notice of this question.”

*Power laundries in the Tamil districts.*

\* 30 Q.—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) how many power laundries are in the Tamil districts of the Madras State; and

(b) whether any investigation has been made in regard to the durability of the cloth washed by power laundry; and if so, with what result?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ (a) There are ten power laundries in the Tamil districts of this State.

“ (b) No investigation has so far been made on this subject.”

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—“ May I know whether the Government have received any representation from the public to the effect that the clothes washed by power laundry are damaged and, if so, what action do the Government propose to take? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ We have no such information.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ Is there not a power laundry in the Madras General Hospital? I believe the washing of the clothes there is excellently done? ”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ There is one power laundry in the Madras General Hospital.”

*Number of palmyra trees dried up in Tiruchendur taluk.*

\* 31 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a large number of palmyra trees in Udangudi and Sattankulam firkas of Tiruchendur taluk, Tirunelveli district, have dried up and died owing to drought;

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of palmyra trees (village-war) which have partly dried up and fully dried up in those two firkas;

[30th December 1953]

(c) whether the Government have taken any relief measures in those areas; and if so, what they are; and

(d) whether the Government have taken any relief measures tax in respect of the palmyra trees which are completely dried up and dead?

**THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—**“(a)

It is a fact that some palmyra trees in the two firkas mentioned have dried up.

“(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

“(c) Four district board road works, three low scale famine relief works, eight minor irrigation works, 14 rural water-supply works and three food production works are being carried out to provide employment for the population affected by drought. Besides this the concession of giving Rs. 150 for deepening drinking water wells has been granted in 65 cases in the area. Multi-vitamin tablets and clothes are also being distributed to the needy people.

“(d) As the tree tax on the palmyras on patta dry lands is not subject to any revision during the currency of the present settlement, the pattadars are liable to pay the assessment already fixed at the time of re-settlement, even if the trees die. The Government have however since ordered that with effect from Fasli 1363 the tax on palmyra trees standing on dry lands in Tirunelveli district should be abolished altogether and that the dry assessments recoverable from the holders of lands hitherto paying tree tax in addition to land tax should be fixed at the highest dry rate per acre on the aggregate of the land tax plus the tree tax hitherto paid, whichever is less.”

**SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—**“I understood the Hon. Revenue Minister to say that the palmyra tree tax was abolished and that some other tax was imposed in its place. May I know what justification there is for this step? As long ago as 1948, a promise was made on the floor of this House that the Government would consider the abolition of the palmyra tree tax altogether. Is not the substitution of another tax in the place of the abolished palmyra tree tax merely a change in the form of the tax and a violation of the spirit of that promise?”

**THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—**“No, Sir, it is not changing the form. The palmyra tree tax is really abolished. Suppose a pattadar was paying Rs. 20 by way of land tax *plus* the palmyra tree tax. After the abolition of palmyra tree tax, he will have to pay only Rs. 2-13-0 at the



30th December 1953]

most. Suppose the former land tax *plus* the palmyra tree tax was Rs. 1-8-0. Now the owner will have to pay only Rs. 1-8-0 and not Rs. 2-13-0."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" The hypothetical case taken by the Hon. Minister is very unreal. In fact what is prevalent in that area is that the land tax is in the region of 6 annas per acre and the palmyra tax is in the region of Rs. 2 per acre. By the abolition of the palmyra tax altogether, instead of reducing the tax to the level of the land tax, namely, six annas, the Government propose to keep it at the highest level. This is going against the promise of the Government given on the floor of the House."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No, not at all. The hon. Member will realize the position when I say that the Government, by this abolition of the tree tax, have lost a few lakhs of rupees of income."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government would simply abolish the palmyra tree tax and collect only the land tax, and leave it at that level? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The hon. Member who puts the question knows the conditions very well. But he does not put it quite clearly in this House. Where there are a number of trees on a bit of land, no cultivation can go on in that land, and the land revenue, so far as that land is concerned, is therefore, only nominal. But the tree tax was then being collected, and, therefore, it did not matter. Now, when we abolish the tree tax altogether, we cannot simply allow the owner of the land to have it both ways. He must at least pay the proper land revenue which in that area the land owner should pay. But it is difficult to go through the course of a re-settlement for this purpose, and so a formula was evolved by which he would have the best advantage out of it—and not an unjust advantage. He must pay either the amount he was paying, or the highest rate of dry assessment whichever is less. That is the formula. If it is properly examined, the hon. Member will see that there is no injustice in it. In no case is a man made to pay more than what he has been paying hitherto."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is it not a fact that the peasant is being asked to pay something in place of the palmyra tax, the abolition of which was promised by the Government on the floor of the House long ago? Is it not also a fact that the imposition of the palmyra tax is illegal according to the new Constitution, and the Government are merely adopting a new method in order to impose the unconstitutional palmyra tax? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The exposition is entirely wrong, Sir."

[30th December 1953]

*Protection for poor young women and girls in the City.*

\* 32 Q.—DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of young women and girls between the ages of 14 and 18, stray into the City in search of employment, food and shelter and that they very often fall into the hands of traffickers; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to appoint women-patrols to direct them to places of safety or restore them to their guardians or relations, if any?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—“(a)

There have been instances of young girls straying into the Madras City due to the present economic conditions, who eventually fall into the hands of traffickers. Four such girls were saved and sent to the Vigilance Home, Madras.

“(b) The Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930 and the rules made thereunder contain provisions in regard to the rescue of girls, by the Police, from the hands of traffickers in women and girls. Under the rules, the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools and Vigilance Service, also admits into rescue homes or shelter, girls who have been in immoral surroundings or who have been exposed to moral dangers, etc., whenever he is made aware of such cases by respectable persons and philanthropic bodies, provided that the girls in question volunteer to be in such homes. There is no proposal to appoint women-patrols for the purpose as indicated in the question.”

DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—“Sir, may I know whether the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930, will apply only when the girls are found in houses of ill-fame, and that then only the Police will go to the rescue of such girls? May I know whether the police will not take care of girls roaming about in the streets?”

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—“Giving power indiscriminately will lead to difficulties. That is why, only when they are able to spot out such girls, the Police have to produce them before the magistrate and get them remanded.”

DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—“Sir, we want the prevention of girls—innocent girls—coming into the City either for employment or for getting admission into the Service Homes, or for some education, from going into the houses of ill-fame. Prevention is better. Do not the Government feel the need for employing women-patrols? We were doing this work through the old Vigilance Association. Now that has been given up. May I also bring to the notice of Government that many such girls who have come into such homes, when they applied for admission, were refused admission. Even at midnight admission was refused, and we had to take them into our care.”



30th December 1953]

**THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—**“ Men personnel will be able to tackle this question more efficiently, because they may have to be out at nights and raid houses. So it is better that the Act is worked as it is now worked.”

**DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—**“ We want a better administration of the Act; because many girls have been forced to enter houses of ill-fame for want of guidance and protection in the City.”

**THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—**“ If that is brought to the notice of the Government, prompt action will be taken.”

**SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV :—**“ Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that there is an organization called the Madras Vigilance Association, which founded and started a Home—just now called the Government Vigilance Home? This organization has been ignored by the Government when it came forward, after the Government have taken over the Home, to offer its services in this line. Repeated requests have met with no help from the Government. Yet this organization is trying to do its best by these girls. Rules and regulations are so tightened that many a girl would go astray if this Association does not come to the rescue. The Association is now suffering from lack of funds. Will the Hon. Minister give an assurance that the Government will take the assistance of this well known organization? ”

**THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—**“ The request will be considered.”

**MR. CHAIRMAN :—**“ Questions are over.”

[Note.—An asterisk (\*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

## II.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :—**“ I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 16th December 1953, from the Governor of Madras :—

‘In pursuance of Article 207, Clause (3) of the Constitution of India, I, Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras Appropriation Bill, 1953.’

## III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE SECOND SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR 1953-54.

\* **DR. V. K. JOHN :—**“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is very kind of you to give me the privilege of opening the budget discussion. I am quite sure that this discussion will be of a very high level and will keep to the standards which this House has been accustomed to in the past. It is my hope—but I am not quite sure about it—that the Government also will give due consideration to the suggestions and criticisms made on the floor of this House on the 11-30 a.m.

[Dr. V. K. John] [30th December 1953]

budget which has been presented. With a copy of the Appropriation Bill in my hand, I feel that this discussion is a post-mortem examination of the budget. Nevertheless, criticisms on the budget, I feel, will be of very great assistance to the Government—if the Government would like to take into consideration those criticisms—in preparing the next budget. Therefore, I invite hon. Members to give their criticisms and suggestions on this budget. It is very regrettable that the Hon. the Finance Minister should have said in his budget speech, although it is supplemented in this House, that he would not digress into the policies and programmes of the Government. He thought that it was a digression. I think he must know that a budget ought to reflect the policies and programmes of the Government. To call it a digression is not to do justice either to the budget, to himself, or to the House. I may say—if he does not know—that the budget ought to represent the principles and programmes of the Government. Or, he finds that there are no principles, policies and programmes. Probably the latter is the case. Sir, I would not deal with the figures given in this budget. The budget is only a statement of treasury account, and not a real budget at all. But Rajaji in presenting a supplementary speech in this House, in his most inimitable style, corrected one defect in the figures given in the budget presented by the Hon. the Finance Minister. Apparently, Rajaji was not quite satisfied with the way in which the budget was presented in the other House. He said that we must not rely entirely on the figures of income and expenditure given in this budget. That is really the truth. Sir, when this budget was presented in March 1953, the Hon. the Minister for Finance . . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Is it the suggestion that I said that the figures were wrong?"

11-40 a.m. DR. V. K. JOHN:—"I will clarify, Sir. When the budget was presented in March 1953, the Hon. the Finance Minister said that there would be a deficit of Rs. 540 lakhs. The Government, according to him, were in such great straits that they even went to the extent of finding new sources of revenue. Consequently, they decided to impose a cut of 10 per cent on the pay of officers drawing more than Rs. 300 per mensem. But now, the Hon. the Finance Minister has said in his speech that there will be a surplus of Rs. 23 lakhs. I thought that the deficit had been transferred in full to the Andhra State. But, I find that the Finance Minister of the Andhra State had yesterday presented a Budget to the Andhra Legislative Assembly, with a very small deficit of Rs. 50 lakhs. Then, where has the sum of Rs. 500 lakhs gone? It has really disappeared by some magic."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"A deficit of Rs. 540 lakhs was forecast for the whole year and not for a six-month period."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"I am referring to the whole year. In spite of the fact that the deficit forecast for the whole year was



30th December 1953] [Dr. V. K. John]

more than Rs. 5 crores, the Hon. the Finance Minister has been able to tell the House now that there will be a surplus of Rs. 23 lakhs for the current six-month period. In this connexion, credit is being taken for the receipt of about Rs. 281 lakhs under taxes on Income and Rs. 91 lakhs under Union Excise Duties, being the share of this Government from the Central divisible pool. Therefore, it is stated that this huge sum of Rs. 281 lakhs *plus* Rs. 91 lakhs is available for this half-year. Then, the receipts from the General Sales Tax have now been estimated at Rs. 490 lakhs. The Hon. the Finance Minister has, however, said that this estimate is on the basis of the actual collections in the first half of this year. But, he has said in another portion of his speech that the receipt from the sales tax is going down. I say, Sir, this is only a camouflage of figures. Somehow a surplus of Rs. 23 lakhs has been arrived at. It is possible that there might be a deficit of a few crores of rupees. But I am not quarrelling with it because in the circumstances under which the Budget has been presented, particularly after the partition of the State, one cannot be absolutely sure about the figures. The Hon. the Chief Minister has suggested that we must not rely very much on the figures given either of income or of expenditure. I quite agree with the suggestion. The House should not complain of the figures given by the Hon. the Finance Minister. But it should have been said in the other House and in this House that these figures might not be relied upon. (Interruption.) I have gone through the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister once, twice and thrice, but there is no mention of this anywhere.

" On the side of expenditure, I find a statement made by the Honorary Educational Adviser to the Government for Elementary and Basic Education that the Government are going to spend half a crore of rupees on education. But I do not see anything like that in the Budget that has been presented to us. That being so. I do not know how a responsible officer of the Government can come out with a Press statement like that. I leave it at that. My real complaint is that the Government do not appear to follow any principle, programme or policy, in the matter of a rational tax-structure, in the matter of borrowings and in the matter of expenditure and the benefits derived from expenditure on revenue account as well as on capital account. They also do not seem to follow any policy or principle in implementing the Directive Principles of State Policy embodied in our Constitution. They do not further appear to have any dynamic policy towards the solution of pressing problems which face us to-day, namely, unemployment, underemployment, poverty and hunger. I may also add that they are still continuing the fads on which they are wasting large sums of money.

" Now, Sir, I turn to the tax-structure. I think it is a universally accepted principle of taxation that the tax-structure of a Government must give an incentive to work and to invest, must not be oppressive on the poor and must be rational. Now, if one

[Dr. V. K. John] [30th December 1953]

looks at the tax-structure of this Government, one will find hardly any item of taxation which can be said to be rational. I shall take only three instances. One of them is sales tax. I think it is a most immoral tax to be imposed and collected. It is not based on any economic principles whatsoever. When a man puts money into a business or trade, he is asked to pay to the Government a portion of his turnover although he might possibly incur a loss. The Government do not share the loss but take away a portion of the turnover. If there is a loss, the Government collect their dues from the capital. I think this is a very irrational tax. It is neither a sales tax nor a purchase tax, but it is a concealed tax. A man who buys an article on which the so-called sales tax has to be paid must certainly know how much he has paid to the Government. A man purchasing an article for Rs. 100 must have paid not one rupee or two rupees as sales tax but probably Rs. 20 or Rs. 25, because although it may be only one or two rupees according to the invoice given to him, this tax is collected at multiple points and, therefore, it will be about Rs. 25. But, the consumer, the ultimate purchaser, does not know how much he has paid to the Government. Therefore, I call it a 'concealed tax', and a concealed tax is irrational and immoral. Sir, the Government have been asked many times to reconsider the means and methods of collecting this tax. I remember the former Finance Minister once saying on the floor of this House that the sales tax was a 'Kamadhenu' and I, on the Opposition side, then said that it was a blood-sucking leech. It is this tax that has been responsible for the bringing about of the high cost of living, that has destroyed trade and industry in the State and that has made the people poverty-stricken. This multi-point tax has been an object of criticism not only in the Legislature but all over the State. It has been criticized by great economists throughout the state. Now, there is not one word in the Budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister about the question whether the Government are reconsidering the structure of taxation in this State with particular reference to, what they call, the sales-tax. I won't call it sales tax; it is a concealed tax.

11-50  
a.m.

"No doubt it was promised in the other House after very serious criticisms were levelled against the Government that a Committee would be appointed to go into the question of sales tax, and let me tell hon. Members that nothing was mentioned about this fact in the budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister. I am afraid that the promises made on the floor of both the Houses that they would do this or do that are only promises which are rarely implemented. If we take the Budget speeches for the last few years—I have got the copies of Budget speeches made by the Hon. the Finance Minister in the last two years—we will find no continuity of policy at all. During the discussion on the Budget, when many suggestions are made by hon. Members, the Hon. the Finance Minister, the Hon. the Chief Minister and all other Hon. Ministers used to get up and say, 'We will consider those suggestions, we will do this and we will do that.' But, when the next



30th December 1953] [Dr. V. K. John]

year's budget is presented, one will never find even a word about how they have considered those suggestions, whether they have considered those suggestions at all, and what they have done on those suggestions. One cannot find any continuity of policy at all.

" Sir, I wish to point out that the tax-structure adopted by this Government is irrational, and the Government had not considered it their duty and obligation to consider the tax-structure which is now obtaining. They simply collect as much money as they possibly can, they put their hand here, there and everywhere and collect all the available money and appropriate it, and I must add they waste the money thus collected.

" I have already given one example, namely, the so-called sales tax. Now, let me come to the tax on vehicles. Sir, this Government have earned a notoriety for levying the highest tax on buses. This Government's tax on buses is the highest on record, not only in India, but all over the World. It ought to be the policy of any civilized Government to keep the cost of passenger traffic as low as possible. If one is in Paris and buys a ticket worth one anna, one can travel the whole day and can go as one pleases, and cover 200 miles or so for a comparatively very cheap fare. There, trams and buses are running at a profit and still they are able to provide cheap transport. Here, taxation has gone up to a very great extent. I have with me certain figures relating to the tax on buses, and I must say that the Government have been levying a huge amount as tax on buses. In 1949, the tax was Rs. 17 per seat. now it is Rs. 42-8-0 per seat. It will be seen that the increase in the tax has been 250 per cent. What is the result? There is the law of diminishing returns. According to the figures given by the Central Road Traffic Board, on 30th September 1952, the number of buses on the road was 6,327, but on 30th June 1953, it was only 5,827. This means that 500 vehicles have gone off the road. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam : ' I definitely say that there has been an increase in the number of buses. ' ) Whatever it is, I have given the figures of the Central Road Traffic Board. The Hon. the Finance Minister now contradicts my statement and says that there has been an increase. I know he made a statement elsewhere also that more permits had been granted during this year. I want to tell the Hon. the Finance Minister that this does not necessarily mean that there has been an increase in the number of buses. He ought to have known this. Not knowing this he made the statement that more permits were issued this year, and so there were more vehicles on the road this year. Let me explain this point a little further. A person owning a bus and who has to pay something like 35 per cent of the gross revenue as tax to the Government is actually unable to run it. Therefore, he transfers the bus to somebody in whose favour a new permit is issued. In this way, the number of permits issued by the Government increases, but let me remind the Hon. the Minister for Finance that the number of buses put on the road has not

[Dr. V. K. John] [30th December 1953]

increased. I challenge the Hon. the Finance Minister to prove that my figures are not correct. I am sorry he is ignorant of the real state of affairs when he says that there has been an increase in the number of buses put on the road consequent on the issue of a greater number of permits. He knows only the number of permits issued by the Government and not the actual number of buses put on the road. We must take into account the actual number of buses that are on the road to-day and not the number of permits issued. There is the law of diminishing returns. I hope the Hon. the Finance Minister will agree with me that even in the matter of the replacement of vehicles, it has dwindled to 300 from 1,200. Why should the cost of passenger traffic be kept at such a high rate? Why should the Government go on taxing the poor people who are using these vehicles? The Hon. the Finance Minister once said that the tax is imposed only on the operator and not on the passengers. No operator will himself bear this heavy tax, and incur a loss. He will surely shift the burden to the poor people who use his vehicles. Sir, it is a great pity that this Government have not recognized the fact that we have a capitalist structure of society and the present structure of society is based on competition and exploitation and not on co-operation and service. If they tax the rich, the tax is passed on to the poor people. In the present economic structure of society, one can never say that the rich will not pass on the tax imposed on them by the Government to the poor people. The Hon. the Finance Minister ought to have known that the tax, which is payable by the operator, is passed on to the travelling public, the poor travelling public, who have necessarily to use these vehicles and not to the rich people who never use their vehicles. The Madras Government, as I said before, have earned a notoriety of having so many irrational taxes as these.

“When I refer to the sales tax and the tax on vehicles, I do so only by way of illustration to point out that the Government have not got a rational taxation structure. I want to give one more illustration. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam: ‘Show us some source where we can lay our hands on’.) You must have the brains for it. I shall deal with that subject straightway. There is another tax to which I wish to refer and, that is, the tax on land. It is an old tax and it is also an irrational tax. The Government must levy a tax on agricultural income. People who get agricultural income must be taxed and not those who do not get any income at all. Simply because a man owns one or two acres of land, he should not be taxed. As a matter of fact, such people get hardly anything. Now, the Chief Minister or anybody cannot ask these people to pay a heavy tax. It is not at all reasonable. You must have experts in the Government. The Hon. the Finance Minister interrupted me just now. I must say a word about this Government. When Rajaji accepted office and became the Chief Minister of the Madras Government after the general elections, everybody expected that this Government would be constituted by persons who were experts on various subjects. I am



30th December 1953] [Dr. V. K. John]

sorry to observe that, except in one case, Rajaji has not found men for the job, but only jobs for the men. When I say this, I say with due respect and regard for him. For instance, Hon. Sri Bhaktavatsalam has experience of the Public Works Department. That department has not been put under his charge. Again, the Health Department has not been given to Dr. U. Krishna Rao, who is a medical man. Some other portfolio has been given to him. The Government must have experts. They do not have them now. It is a great pity that Rajaji has not found men for the job. In fact, in all civilized countries, as in England, there is what is called an Inner Cabinet. Distinguished persons like Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Ayyar and Sir A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar and others could have been brought into the cabinet and a sort of Inner Cabinet could have been formed. They will be in a position to give ideas and advice to the Government. I have to make this suggestion as I was interrupted by the Hon. the Finance Minister. We must have in the Cabinet people who can think about things and who can introduce measures.

“ But the Government have found jobs for men and not men for jobs except in one case to which I shall come at the end of my speech. At this rate, you can never find means and measures for introducing a rational structure of taxation. Now take the borrowings. I have figures of borrowings. The Government had 43½ crores of rupees on the 1st April 1946 in the Revenue Reserve Fund. This is a huge amount. I hope the Government will not contradict this figure and also those figures which I am going to furnish presently to the House, because I have taken them from the Budget speeches of the Finance Minister himself. On the 31st April 1952, when this Government took over, they had 14½ crores of rupees in the Revenue Reserve Fund. They have now depleted everything. The borrowings were Rs. 301.41 lakhs of rupees in 1951, Rs. 524.81 lakhs in the open market in 1952, and Rs. 617 lakhs in 1953. And there is now a threat in the Finance Minister's speech that borrowings will continue. How long and how far? Are you going to borrow thousands of crores of rupees in the open market? If the Government do it, then a time will be reached when a substantial portion of their revenues will go to pay only the interest on the loans. Then, we must turn to the other side. The Government have borrowed from the Government of India an equally large amount or even larger amount and these loans are repayable many years later. Interest has to be paid on these loans. This is an irrational way of borrowing. In all limited companies, you will find in the Articles of Association a clause that they cannot borrow more than the paid-up capital of the company concerned. So, there must be a limit. I am not saying that there is a ‘paid-up capital’ for the Government. But they must put a limit to this kind of borrowing. And then what is this borrowing for? ”

12  
noon.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ I thought you were going to suggest a limit.”

[30th December 1953]

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I will not suggest. After all, it is for the Government to think over. I say ‘ stop ’; the limit has been reached. But the Finance Minister in his grace and wisdom will decide what should be the limit, whether the Government should stop with 100 crores of rupees in the open market or more. I will leave this matter there.

“ And now what has happened to these borrowings? It is said that it is all invested on capital expenditure on irrigation, electricity and other schemes. But the question is, what is the benefit of this investment. The Hon. the Finance Minister in one of his speeches made last year said that he was expecting an immediate return. But his Budget speech does not show—there is no figure given in his speech to indicate—what advantage the general tax payer has got in finding this money for the Government to invest on capital schemes. I think that the Chief Minister in his Budget speech felt the force of this argument—probably he might have argued it within himself—and, therefore, referred to the question of betterment contribution. Have the Government at any time taken into consideration the cost of the scheme when they took up irrigation projects for examination? Have they ever considered whether the work can be executed by them better than by private agencies, and what the return would be from the projects? Let us look at the return side. The composite Government provided for Rs. 17½ crores of rupees to be paid to the zamindars by way of compensation on the abolition of the zamindaris, and we are paying this amount in instalments. But who is getting the compensation? It is the *kutti* zamindar, the man next to the zamindar. Sir, in Uttar Pradesh, the Government have collected over a 100 crores of rupees from those who have benefited from the abolition of zamindaris. Here what do we do? We have abolished the zamindaris, and we have not paid the zamindars the market value of the lands taken over, though that might have been a reasonable amount of compensation. I do not, however, weep for that. Who is getting the compensation amount? The man next to the zamindar and not the zamindar whose estates have been taken over. And that man who has been given the land pays only ryotwari assessment. Why not the Government collect the value of the benefit he has received? The real point is, in 1949, there was no adult suffrage and the Congress Government were depending on the *kutti* zamindars who were their supporters. They said : ‘ Here are these supporters of ours; better give them the benefit of this abolition and catch their votes.’ Then adult suffrage came and the position was reversed. But even then, why do not the Government find out how much money can be got from those who have benefited from this abolition? Why do the Government tax the general tax payer for purposes of paying the compensation amount? Why not these people be made to pay the betterment tax? But the Government are considering and thinking and there appears to be no end to their thinking and considering! The real fact is there is no sincerity on their part that betterment levy should be resorted to and justice should be done to the general tax payer. The revenues



30th December 1953] [Dr. V. K. John]

of the Government are invested on schemes which give no benefit at all to the tax-payer. I understand that there are some projects which are completely non-productive and yet are taken up on the capital account. This is wrong. Non-productive schemes should be taken up on the revenue account. And then, Sir, what is meant by 'productive'? There must be some possibility of at least a portion of the capital investment being realized by the Government from those who stand to benefit by the scheme. Such a scheme can be called productive. But it is not the case now. There is no rational idea behind the expenditure on capital account.

"Then, Sir, I shall come to expenditure on the revenue account. The Government have given huge figures. They say that they will be spending 4½ to 5 crores of rupees on Education in the next six months. But do they tell us what will be the result of that expenditure? The Government must always remember that an expenditure can be wasteful and can be beneficial also. Therefore, they ought to satisfy this House that the expenditure incurred on the revenue account is one very well spent. Sir, I have had occasion to consider the expenditure on Education. Before the Congress took over office in 1946, the Advisers' Government spent nearly 4½ crores of rupees on Education. After the Congress took over, the expenditure was nearly doubled, they say. But when I asked for figures, I found that there was only a ten per cent increase in the provision of educational facilities. That means 90 per cent of the excess provision went to waste. Take item after item. The same is the case. The Government have not considered at all whether the increased expenditure on various accounts has produced any result at all. They must examine the figures furnished in the past and compare them with the figures they have now presented and see whether any increased facilities have resulted so far as the people's needs are concerned. They have not done so, nor any results have been achieved. Is this a Budget? I can understand the Finance Minister asking us to keep quiet and not to discuss the principles or policy which the Government follow in framing their Budget. It is because they have no principle nor policy. They drift. All the time they drift. They can never think of an item of expenditure which will be beneficial. That is the case with 'Harijan Uplift'. That is the case with the well subsidy scheme on which nearly sixty lakhs of rupees have been spent. I have read in newspapers that Government have given grants to people who have had no wells or who have sunk no wells. These must be loans and nothing else.

"Then, Sir, I pass on to the Directive Principles of State Policy mentioned in the Constitution. Is there any indication in the Budget speech that the Government propose to implement the directive principles? There is Chapter III which deals with Fundamental Rights and these are enforced by Courts. Chapter IV also contains Fundamental Rights which are not enforceable in a Court and the Constitution depends on the State Governments to implement these.

[Dr. V. K. John] [30th\* December 1953]

12-10 p.m. " Let me read through the relevant portions of the Directive Principles of State policy. In Article 39 it is provided that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing

' Ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good, that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment.'

' Article 40 says that the State shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government. Article 41 says that the State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want. Article 45 deals with education and states that within a period of ten years free and compulsory education shall be provided for all children until they complete the age of 14. Article 46 provides for the promotion with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and in particular of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Sir, is there any indication, I ask, in the Budget speech delivered in the other House or in the speech delivered by Hon. the Chief Minister in this House, to the effect that the Government are trying to realise the objectives set forth in the Directive Principles of State policy contained in the Constitution? (Interruption.) I will come to Prohibition later. The Government are doing nothing to achieve those objectives. They have no ideas at all on these things. They must try to follow the principles set forth in the Directive Principles of State policy.

" The Hon. the Minister for Finance asked me: ' Why don't you speak on Prohibition? '. There is provision in the Directive Principles for introducing Prohibition. But I want that it should be understood in the context in which it is given. I quite agree that it was in order, to try total Prohibition to find out whether it would be a success or not. But you must not ostrich-like put your head into the sand and refuse to accept realities when you find it is not a success. You must retrace your steps. What is the position today? Total Prohibition as opposed to partial Prohibition has demoralized the country. It has created a cottage industry for illicit distillation. I was shocked yesterday by the figure given by the Hon. the Minister in charge of Prohibition that in the year of grace 1952 there were as many as 1,18,235 prosecutions. How many magistrates ought to have been employed for trying these cases? And how many police officers? Perhaps only one out of a hundred is prosecuted. This has demoralized the whole country. Now, the Prohibition law exempts the Forces, Army, Navy and others. What sincerity could be expected of a Congress Government which exempts people who have to protect us from invasion and from disturbances, inside and outside? In New Delhi, the Capital of India from where the Congress rules the



30th December 1953] [Dr. V. K. John]

country, there is no Prohibition at all. The Andhra Government, I find, have grown wiser after they left this place. They have appointed a Committee to go into the question. Likewise I would ask this Government also to appoint a Committee to go into the whole question (Interruption) and then find out whether they must have total Prohibition or only partial Prohibition.

“ Now, Sir, I want to make a constructive suggestion to deal with problems of unemployment, underemployment, poverty and hunger. These problems could be solved only by decentralizing power and authority. I am not sure whether this Government, and the present Chief Minister, will be interested in the decentralization of power and authority. Now there is always a tendency to concentrate power and authority in oneself. One way by which the Government can solve the problems facing the country is to create really self-governing local bodies—panchayats for every 5,000 people. It shall be the concern and responsibility, the pride and privilege of that body to create, promote and sustain the welfare of the people within its jurisdiction so that no man living within its jurisdiction shall carry a begging bowl, no man shall be without employment, without food, without clothing, without shelter, without education, without sanitary conditions of living, and without those social securities, which we know are prevalent in the West, namely, provision for old age, unemployment, sickness, widows, orphans and also provisions for those in need. To achieve these things you must have self-governing units. But it may be said that there will be factions in such units. I ask, Sir, are there not factions at State level? Is there no faction in the Congress Party which runs this Government? Are there not factions in the Centre? Factions are there always. A child cannot learn to walk unless it falls and tries to learn to walk. Therefore I say, first create self-governing local bodies and give them power and responsibility to create, promote and sustain the welfare of the people, so to say, to create a Welfare State, within their jurisdiction. The Government must render assistance, financial and other, to make these institutions a success.

“ Then, Sir, they must have an agrarian policy. It should not aim at putting a ceiling on the holdings, but should try to see that every family is settled on the land, and that every family is given pecuniary assistance in the shape of loans granted by co-operative societies, so that the lands could be brought under cultivation. Sir, I believe in rehabilitation and not relief. I believe in self-help and not charity. If the Government have an agrarian policy which will enable people to buy land by paying the cost over a period of years, if there are multi-purpose co-operative societies to help these people financially, and if there are really self-governing local bodies, if power and authority are decentralized, then the problems of unemployment and poverty could easily be solved. But this Government cannot do all this. The reason why this Government cannot have such an agrarian policy is this. The Congress has a mixed economy. It consists of rich men, zamindars and

[Dr. V. K. John] [30th December 1953]

poor people. The Congress is a mixed group, a mixed party. The Congress ought to have been liquidated on the very day we achieved independence. We must have parties based on economic ideologies. A great man as he is, the Hon. the Chief Minister should see to it that the Congress Party itself is liquidated and other parties on economic ideologies are allowed to come up. There may be a party for the 'haves'. There may be another for the 'have-nots'. Probably in the party for the 'haves', all the Ministers here including the Hon. the Chief Minister headed by the Hon. the Minister for Finance and also the Leader of the Opposition and others will be members. I will probably be a member in the party of the 'have-nots'. I may not be a leader in that party but may have a leading place. My submission is that parties must be formed on economic ideologies. Then only can we bring in agrarian reforms. The Hon. the Revenue Minister the other day was finding it difficult to answer a question on this subject and said that the Government were considering the question. When the Government say they are considering the question, it means they are putting it under redtape and then will shelve it. The only way in which the pressing problems of the country, the problems of unemployment, underemployment, hunger and so on could be solved is to bring in agrarian reforms, similar to those effected in China, but not nationalization. The Government should settle every family on land, and give them financial assistance to cultivate the land. Only with such an agrarian policy and with self-governing units and multi-purpose co-operative societies, can the Government solve the problems facing them.

" I put forward these suggestions for the consideration of the Government. But I am not hopeful that Government would consider my suggestions because the party of the Government consists of men who pull the Government on the left and on the right—in opposite directions. So long as the Congress Party continues to be constituted as it is to-day, consisting of Raja Sahibs, zamindars, rich men and also poor men, I am quite sure that that party cannot deliver the goods to the people of this country. Unless the ruling party, the Congress party, is reconstituted on the basis of an economic ideology, the country will go to ruins.

12 20 " I, therefore, submit that the Government ought to consider  
p.m. whether they can at least introduce agrarian reforms, by which every family can be settled on land. Co-operative societies should function to help these families. Self-Government should be given to local bodies. But I am quite sure that the Government, constituted as they are, will not be in a position to carry out this programme at all, and there is no purpose in my giving constructive suggestions. Nevertheless, I have offered these suggestions, and I have a great anxiety whether they will be considered by the Government. Anyway, it is my hope that when they introduce the next Budget—this Budget is a dead one and the present discussion is only a *post-mortem* examination—they will consider not only my suggestions but also the suggestions that may be offered by



30th December 1953] [Dr. V. K. John]

other hon. Members on the floor of the House, in the manner in which they ought to be considered, and put themselves in a position to implement those suggestions. At the same time they should have a constructive policy on taxation, expenditure, borrowings and other matters concerning the Government. Let us hope that the next Budget will not merely be a Budget of figures or a Statement of Treasury Accounts but a Budget which will reveal the principles, policy and programme of the Government. Let me also hope that when the Hon. the Finance Minister presents his next Budget he will not consider a discussion on these principles, policies and programmes as a digression from the Budget discussion. After all, the Budget is not one of figures but one of policies and programmes of the Government. Now, I see the Hon. the Finance Minister does not seem to have taken kindly to my suggestions, but if he ponders over the criticisms and suggestions that I have offered, he will become a little wiser, and present his next Budget in a different way altogether. Sir, I have taken a good deal of time, and now I thank you very much for the indulgence you have shown me."

\* SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR :—“ கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தைப்பற்றி சர்ச்சை நடந்துகொண்டு வருகின்றது. இருக்கிற பணத்தைக் கொண்டு எவ்வளவு தூரம் காரியங்களைச் செய்ய முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு தான் செய்ய முடியும் என்பது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். ஏனென்றால், ஆந்திர ராஜ்யம் ஒரு பக்கம் பிரிந்து சென்று விட்டது. நமக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் வருகிறது, அதிலிருந்து எவ்வளவு செய்ய முடியும் என்று பார்த்தால், இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற நிலையில் அதிகமாகச் செய்ய முடியாதது என்பது எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். ஆனால், சில யோசனைகளும் சில விஷயங்களும் அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்துடன் நான் பேச முற்பட்டேனெயொழிய, யாரையும் குறைகூறுவதற்கோ அல்லது ஏதாவது தப்புத் தவறுகள் கண்டு பிடிப்பதற்கோ நான் முயற்சிக்கவில்லை யென்பதை முதன் முதலில் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன். ஏனென்றால், இப்பொழுது அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துவது, யாராயிருந்தாலும், ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டம். பல அபிப்பிராயங்கள், பல கட்சிகள், பல விதமான எண்ணங்கள் இவைகளெல்லாம் தான் உலமையாகக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது நம்முடைய நாட்டில். இவைகளையெல்லாம் சமாளித்துக் கொண்டு போவது ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டம் தான். ஆனால், வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தில் ஜனங்களிடையே நிலை, அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய நிலை நாம் எவ்வளவு தூரம் செய்யமுடியும், இதற்குமுன் இருந்தவைகளை என்னென்ன விதத்தில் செய்துகொண்டு வந்தோம், இப்பொழுது அதை இன்னும் அதிகமாகச் செய்யமுடியுமா அல்லது இருந்து கொண்டிருந்ததையாவது குறைக்காமல் இருக்க முடியுமா என்பதையும் யோசிக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஏனென்றால், ஒரு பக்கம் பஞ்சத்தால் ஜனங்கள் அதிகக் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டுவந்தார்கள். கடவுள் அருளினால் இப்பொழுது ஏதோ கொஞ்சம் மழை பெய்திருக்கிறது. பெரும்பான்மை யான ஜில்லாக்களிலே மழை பெய்திருந்தாலும், சில இடங்களில் மழை குறைவாகத்தான் பெய்திருக்கிறது என்பதையும் நாம் கவனிக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. பல தொல்லைகளிடையே இவைகளை யெல்லாம் சமாளித்துக் கொண்டு போகவேண்டித்தான் இருக்கிறது.

“ குறிப்பாக, விவசாய முன்னேற்றத்தை எடுத்துக் கொண்டோமானால், மழை பெய்ததிலிருந்து ஜனங்களுக்கு ஒரு உற்சாகம் வரவேண்டும். அதிகமாக ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டதனால், அந்த உற்சாகம் அநேக இடங்களிலே இல்லை. சில இடங்களில் இருக்கிறது. பல இடங்களில் எவ்வளவு இருக்க வேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு உற்சாகம் இல்லை. பூராவும் இல்லையென்று

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar][30th December 1953]

சொல்ல முடியாது. ஏனென்றால், பொருளாதார நிலை ரொம்பவும் சீர்தேடிக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதினாலே, ஜனங்களுக்குப் பண வசதி கிடையாது. பண வசதி கொடுக்கும் நிலையிலே அரசாங்கம் இல்லை. அதுவும் இருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலையிலே அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்ற கூக்குரல் ஒரு பக்கம் இருக்கிறது. சமூகத்திலே பல தொல்லைகள் இருக்கின்றன. இவையெல்லாம் இருக்கும்போது, நாம் இருக்கிற தொல்லைகளை எப்படி சமாளித்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும், இன்னும் அதிகமாகச் செய்யாவிட்டாலும் இருந்த சலுகையையாவது நாம் ஏதாவது வர்ப்பு வரங்காமல் இருக்கிறோமா என்பதைத்தான் நான் சுட்டிக் காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன்.

“ இப்பொழுது நிலத் தீர்வை விஷயம் இருக்கிறது. நிலத் தீர்வை சம்பந்தமாக பல சட்ட திட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அந்த சட்ட திட்டத்திற்கு உட்படுத்தான் அதைச் செய்ய முடியும். சென்ற 7, 8 வருஷங்களாக அதிகமான ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டத்தில் ஆழ்ந்திருப்பதனால், ஒரு வருஷம் அல்ல, பல வருஷங்களாக எப்படி இருந்துகொண்டிருப்பதினாலே அதிக நஷ்டம். அவர்களுக்கு நாம் கொடுக்கிற வஜா ரொம்பக்குறைவு தான். ஆனால், சாகுபடிச்செலவைப் பார்த்தால், எந்தப்பயிரை எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் ரூ. 50 முதல் ரூ. 200 வரை செலவாய்க்கொண்டு வருகிறது. ஏதோ மழைபெய்கிறது உழவன் உழகிறான், விதைக்கிறான், ஒரு போடுகிறான், இன்னும் மற்ற காரியங்களையும் செய்துகிறான். கதிர் வரும்போது மழை இல்லாமல் போய் அருக்க முடியாமல் சாவியாகிறது, சென்ற 6, 7, வருஷங்களாக விவசாயிகளுக்கு எவ்வளவு நஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்பதைப் பார்த்தால், ரொம்பவும் அதிகம் என்பதைச் சொல்லாமல் இருக்க முடியவில்லை. அது எல்லோரும் அறிந்தது தான். கோடிக்கணக்கான பணம் அவர்களுக்கு நஷ்டம். ஏதோ சில பகுதிகளிலே ஜீவநதிகள் ஓடிக்கொண்டிருப்பதனால், நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி நன்றாக இருக்கிறது. அந்த இடங்களில் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டமில்லால் ஓரளவு செளகரியமாக விவசாயத்தை நடத்தமுடியும். ஆனால், மழையை எதிர் பார்த்த பிரதேசங்களில் அந்த விவசாயிகளுக்கு அதிக கஷ்டம் இருக்கிறதென்பதை நாம் எல்லோரும் தெரிந்து கொண்டோம் இருக்கின்றோம். நஷ்டமோ அதிகமென்பதையும் தெரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இந்த நிலையிலே, இருக்கிற சலுகையையாவது நாம் வர்ப்பு பெறாமல் இருந்திருந்தால் நன்றாக இருந்திருக்கும், அனேக சந்தர்ப்பங்களிலே. (At this stage the Deputy Chairman occupied the Chair). ஏனென்றால், அவர்கள் நஷ்டம் அடையும் போது, இந்தப் பணம் ஒன்றும் செய்து விடாது என்ற நிலையிலே நாம் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தினால், இன்னும் அவன் செலவு செய்து கஷ்டப்பட்டது அதிகமிருந்தாலும், நம்முடைய வஜா குறைவாக இருந்தாலும், அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய கடமையை நாம் செய்தோமோ, அதைத் தான் நாம் செய்ய முடியும் என்பதையாவது நாம் காப்பேண்டும். அதைச் செய்து வந்து இருக்கிறார்களா என்று பார்த்தால், முன் இருந்ததைவிட குறைவு என்பதைத்தான் நான் சுட்டிக் காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன் அதிக வஜா செய்ய முடியாத நிலை இருந்தால் கூட, இருந்ததையாவது நாம் வர்ப்பு பெறாமல், சமூகமாக வஜா செய்யும்படியான நிலையிலே அந்தச் சட்டங்களைச் செய்திருந்தால் நன்றாக இருந்திருக்கும். சென்ற வருஷத்தில் சாவி வஜாவை மூன்று விதமாகப் பிரித்து, அதில் அதிகமான ‘Complications’ உண்டாக்கினதினால் அங்கே இருக்கின்ற அதிகாரிகள் அதை எப்படிப் புரிந்து கொள்ளுகிறார்கள், ஜனங்கள் எப்படி அதை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள் என்று பாரக்கும்போது, ஜனங்களுக்கு அதனுடைய பலன் கிடைக்க முடியாத நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்பதைத்தான் நான் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன்.

“ Land Revenue Policy இல் ரொம்ப சிக்கல்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அது விஷயம் தெரிந்தவர்களுக்குக்கூட சரியாகப்பரிந்துகொள்வது ரொம்ப கஷ்டம் இன்னும் அதிகமான சிக்கல்களை (Complications) ஆரம்பித்து விட்டால், அங்கே இருக்கிற அதிகாரிகளும் விவசாயிகளும் சரியாகப் புரிந்து கொள்ளாமல், தாங்கள் ஒன்றும் அறிந்துகொள்ள முடியாத வரி வஜா செய்யாத நிலையிலே இருக்கிறார்கள். விஷயம் நன்றாக தெரிந்தவர்கள் ஒன்றிரண்டு பேர்கள் இருக்கலாம். இதை வேண்டுமென்று செய்தார்கள் என்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. அதனால் விவசாயிகளுக்கு வரி வஜா இல்லாமல் அனேக பாத



30th December 1953] [Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar]

கம் இருக்கிறதென்பதைத் தான் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். ஆகையால், அதையும் கவனித்து தகுந்த முறையிலே அந்த ஏழைகளுக்கு எவ்வளவு தூரம் சலுகை காட்ட முடியுமோ, அதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் காட்டுவார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

“வரிவஜா விஷயத்தில் ஒரு பாகுபாடு. 100 ரூபாய்க்கு மேற்பட்ட பட்டாதார்களுக்கு வஜா கிடையாது என்று ஒரு பாகுபாடு இருக்கிறது. அது தவறு என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன். ஏனென்றால், நமது மாகாணத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் 10-க்கு 9 மழையை எதிர்பார்த்த பிரதேசங்கள். ஒரு ஜில்லாதான் மழையை எதிர்பார்க்காத பிரதேசம். அந்த ஒரு ஜில்லா விலும் சில இடங்கள் மழையை எதிர்பார்த்த பிரதேசம் என்பதை நாம் மறந்துவிட முடியாது. ஆகையால், அதிகமாக செலவு செய்து நஷ்டம் அடைந்திருக்கிற விவசாயிகளுக்கு ஒரு வருஷம் மட்டுமல்ல, பல வருஷங்களாக இருக்கிறது. எங்கெங்கே நல்ல ஊற்றுக் கிணறுகள் இருக்கின்றனவோ, அந்த இடங்களிலே அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய வாழ்க்கையை நடத்தலாம்.

“ஆனால் அங்கே விளைந்ததை விட சாகுபடி செய்த செலவு அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. மழை பெய்தால் உழவனுக்கு நிலம் இருக்கிறதோ இல்லையோ வெள்ளாமை இருந்தாலும் இருக்காவிட்டாலும் அவன் விவசாயத்தை நம்பிக்கொண்டு தன்னுடைய வாழ்க்கையை நடத்துகிறான். ஆனால் இந்த நாட்டில் சாகுபடி செய்ய ஆரம்பித்து விவசாயத்திற்கு வேண்டிய வேலைகளை, யெல்லாம் செய்து பிறகு அது நஷ்டத்தைத் தான் காண்பிக்கிறது. இம்மாதிரி ஒரு வருஷம் அல்ல; பல வருஷங்கள். அவன் அதிகமாக நஷ்டமடைந்து வருகிறான். ஆகையினால் இந்தக் காலத்தில் ரூ. 100-க்கு மேற்பட்ட பட்டாதார்களுக்கு இருந்த இந்த சலுகையை வ.பஸ் வாங்கியது நியாயமா, தர்மமா? என்பதை அரசாங்கம் யோசிக்கவேண்டும். ஏனென்றால் இப்பொழுது எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் பெரிய கூக்குரல். அதிகமாக நிலம் இருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு அதிகமாக பணம் இருக்கிறது என்ற எண்ணம் பலருக்கு இருக்கலாம். நமது மாகாணத்தை எடுத்துக் கொண்டால் அதாவது காமபாசிப் பிராவின்ஸ்—மற்றவைகள் எனக்குத் தெரியாது—சுமார் 20 ஏக்கர் வரை நிலம் இருக்கிறவர்கள் 60 ஆயிரம் பேர்கள் தான். மிகுந்த சென்னை மாகாணத்தை எடுத்துக் கொண்டால் எவ்வளவு பேர்கள் இருப்பார்கள் என்பது அரசாங்கத்தில் கணக்கு இருக்கிறது. இல்லாவிட்டால் தெரிந்து கொள்ளலாம். இதில் எவ்வளவு பேர்கள் பணக்காரர்கள்? எவ்வளவு பேர்கள் மீதம் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்? இதில் எவ்வளவோ பேர்களுக்கு நஷ்டம், அதாவது வருவாயை விட செலவு அதிகமாக ஆகி இருக்கிறது. இது 75 சத விதிகம் இருக்கும். இந்த நிலையில் ஒரு பக்கம் அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கூக்குரல் செய்கிறார்கள். இன்னொரு பக்கம் பார்க்கும்போது அவர்களுக்கு கட்டுபடியாகாத நிலைமை உண்டாக்கப் படுகிறது. இன்னும் அவர்களுக்கு நஷ்டம்தான் ஏற்படுகிறது. இந்த நிலையில் அவர்கள் இருக்கும்போது அவர்களுக்கு வரி வஜா செய்ய முடியாவிட்டாலும் இருந்த சலுகையையும் வாபஸ் செய்வது நியாயமா, தர்மமா என்பதை சர்க்கார் யோசிக்க வேண்டும்.

“இன்னொரு விஷயம். யார் கொஞ்சம் நன்றாக உழவு செய்து உற்பத்தி செய்கிறார்களோ அவர்களுக்கு வசதி இருக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கும் போது அவர்கள் கடன் வாங்குவதற்கு எந்த விதமான வசதியும் கிடையாது. எவனுக்கு கடன் வாங்குவதற்கு அதிகமாக சலுகை இருக்கிறதோ அவன்தான் நன்றாக சாகுபடி செய்யமுடியும். இப்பொழுது பார்த்தால் தெரியும் இந்த வருஷம் கொஞ்சம் மழை பெய்தது. நான் இருக்கும் வட லாரில் இரண்டு ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர் பட்டா நிலங்களில் 800 ஏக்களுக்கு நல்ல மழை இருந்தும் நிலங்கள் எல்லாம் இன்னும் கரம்பையாகத்தான் இருக்கிறது. நண்பர்கள் அங்கு வந்து பார்த்தால் நன்றாகத் தெரியும். அவர்களுக்கு பண வசதி ஒன்றும் இல்லாததால் பயிர் செய்யமுடியவில்லை. இந்த நிலையில்தான் அவர்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவ்விதம் கொஞ்சம் செளகரியம் இருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு இருந்த சலுகையை நாம் வாபஸ் வாங்கினால் அது நியாயமா, தர்மமா? என்பதை யோசித்துப் பார்க்க வேண்டும். அது மாதிரி அல்ல. இதற்கு முன்

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [30th December 1953]

அரசாங்கத்தால் கடன் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. இப்பொழுது இவ்வளவு ஏக்கருக்கு மேல் இருந்தால் கடன் கொடுப்பது இல்லை என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அதுவும் நியாயமா? தர்மமா? என்பதையும் யோசிக்க வேண்டும். ஒரு பக்கம் அதிக உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். ஆனால் இன்னொரு பக்கம் இருக்கும் வசதிகளை வாபஸ் வாங்குவது என்பது நியாயமா என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். கூட்டுறவு சொசைட்டி மூலமாக கடன் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். நமது மாகாணத்தில் தமிழ் நாட்டில் மாத்திரம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு சாகுபடி சிலவற்றை வரடாந்திரம் சமார் 280 கோடி ரூபாய் கட்டை வேண்டி இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் கூட்டுறவு மூலமாக அவர்களுக்கு கிடைப்பது சமார் ரூ. 5, 6 கோடிக்கு மேல் இருக்காது. மற்ற வகைகளில் ஸ்டோர்ஸ் மூலமாக எவ்வளவு என்றால் 70 அல்லது 80 கோடி ரூபாயாகும். அதில் விவசாய சம்பந்தமாக கிடைப்பது காம்போசிட் பிராவினசுக்கு 11 கோடி ரூபாய். இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு இப்பொழுது கிடைக்கும் கடன் அதற்குக் குறைவாகத்தான் இருக்கும். ஆகையினால் நமது மாகாணத்திற்கு விவசாய காரியங்களுக்கு இன்னும் எவ்வளவு அளவு அதிகமாக கடன் சப்ளை செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அரசாங்கம் சிலருக்குக் கொடுக்கமுடியும். ஆனால் அதற்கு அநேகம் தொந்தரவுகள் இருக்கின்றன. இப்பொழுது கடன் நிவாரண சட்டம் வந்தது. அது எப்படி வேலை செய்கிறது என்று பார்க்கும்போது அது நேர்மாறாகத்தான் ஜனங்களைத் திட்டி வேலை செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. எண்ணம் நல்லதுதான். ஆனால் சமூகம் எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்று பார்க்க வேண்டும். அதைப் பார்க்கும்போது சமூகம் போராசை பிடித்த சமூகமாகத்தான் இருக்கிறது. விவசாயிக்கு கடன் எவ்வளவு கொடுத்தாலும் அரை வட்டியாக எழுதி வாங்கிக்கொண்டு மூன்று வட்டி வசூலிக்கிறார்கள். குறைவாகக் கொடுத்துவிட்டு அதிகமாக எழுதி வாங்கிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அத்துடன் வட்டியை அதிகமும் முக்கால்வாசி வட்டியை முன்னதாகவே வாங்கிக்கொண்டு விரகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது விவசாயத்தில் விவசாயிகளிடையேயும் லேவாதேவிக்காரர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களும் அப்படித்தான் செய்கிறார்கள். மற்ற வர்களைப் பற்றி சொல்ல வேண்டாம். இந்த நிலைமையில் இப்பொழுது சமூகம் இருக்கிறது. நாம் எவ்வளவோ சட்டம் இயற்றி இருக்கிறோம். அவைகள் எப்படி வேலை செய்கிறது என்று பார்த்தால் தெரியும். நாம் எவ்வளவோ சட்டம் செய்தும் அவைகள் ஜனங்களிடத்தில் நேர்மாறாகத்தான் வேலை செய்கின்றன. ஆனால் பெரும்பான்மையான சட்டங்கள் அப்படி இல்லை. சில சட்டங்கள்தான் நேர்மாறாக வேலை செய்கின்றன. இந்த நிலையில் அநேகமாக அதிகம் பேர்கள் லேவாதேவி செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். ஆகவே அரசாங்கத்தான் கடன் கொடுத்து உதவவேண்டும். ஆனால் அரசாங்கத்தால் கடன் கொடுக்கமுடியவில்லை. அவர்கள் கடன் வாங்கிக்கொடுக்கலாம். அதுதான் இப்பொழுது நடக்கிறது. ஆகையினால் இந்த மாதிரியான சட்டம் போடாமல் இருந்தாலும் நல்லது. நேர்மாறாக இருக்கும்போது அதை ஏன் போடவேண்டும்? இவ்விதம் போடாமல் இருப்பதுதான் நல்லது என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன். ஜனங்களிடத்தில் பார்த்தால் ஒரு பக்கத்தில் துவேஷம், ஜாதி, மதக்குழப்பம். இன்னொரு பக்கம் பலவித தொல்லைகள். நாம் இப்பொழுது ஜனங்களுக்கு அதிகமான தொல்லைகளுக்கு இடம் கொடுக்கிறோம். நாம் நம்முடைய உத்தரவுகளால் அவர்களுக்கு அதிகமான தொல்லைகளையும் அதிகமான தொந்தரவுகளையும் கொடுக்கிறோம் என்பதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த நிலைமையில் அரசாங்கம் கவனித்துச் செய்யவேண்டும். எனக்குத் தெரியும் நன்மையைக் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய அநேகம் சட்டங்கள் இருப்பது. ரெவினியூ ஆபீசரிடம் தக்காவி கடன் வாங்குவதற்குள் எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. நூறு பேர்களுக்குள் ஒருவனுக்குக்கூட கடன் கிடைக்க முடியாமல் சட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. இதை அரசாங்கம் கொஞ்சம் கவனித்து ஆவன செய்யவேண்டும். ஏற்கனவே விவசாயிகளுக்கு அதிகமான தொந்தரவுகள் இருக்கும்போது இன்னும் அதிகமான தொந்தரவுகளை அரசாங்கம் அவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்கக்கூடாது.

“அடுத்தபடியாக நீர்ப்பாசனம் இருக்கிறது. நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி ரொம்பவும் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. தமிழ் நாட்டில் ஜீவநதிகள் கிடையாது. ஒன்றிரண்டு இடங்களில் தான் இருக்கின்றன. மற்ற இடங்களில் கிடையாது.



30th December 1953]

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar]

வைகை நீர்ப்பாசனத்தில் லட்சத்தி ஐந்தாயிரம் ஏக்கர். காவேரி பாசனத்தில் 12 லட்சம் ஏக்கர், தாம்பரபரணி நீர்ப்பாசனத்தில் 50 அல்லது 60 ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர்கள் இருக்கின்றன. மற்ற இடங்களில் கிடையாது. இதை வைத்துக் கொண்டு 3½ கோடி ஜனங்களைக் காப்பாற்ற வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலையில் இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் குளங்களை அதிகமாக துரஸ்து செய்ய வேண்டும். அதேகம் குளங்கள் மழையை நம்பிக்கொண்டு இருக்கின்றன. சுமார் 30 வருஷத்திற்கு முன்னமே இருந்த நிலையைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது இருப்பவர்களைப்பற்றி குறை கூறவில்லை. அப்பொழுது ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏரி எதுவாயில் தர்க்காஸ்து நிலம் கொடுக்கமாட்டார்கள். இப்பொழுது வருவாயைப் பெருக்குவதற்கும் உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கும் அதிகமான தர்க்காஸ்து நிலங்கள் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. இப்பொழுது அதேகம் குளங்கள் துரஸ்து செய்யப்படாமல் துந்து போய் இருக்கின்றன. அந்தக் காலத்தில் ஒரு செவி மழை பெய்தாலும் ஏரி எதுவாய் நிலங்கள் கரம்பையாக இருந்தால் குளங்களில் தண்ணீர் தேங்கி விவசாயத்திற்கு உபயோகப்படுகிறது. இப்பொழுது ஐந்து அங்குலம் மழை பெய்தாலும் குளங்கள் நிரம்புவது கிடையாது. நிலங்களிலேயே ஊரீப்போய் விடுகிறது. ஏனென்றால் நிலம் புழுதியாக உழுதுவிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மணல் வேறு அடித்து மேடிட்டிருக்கிறது. இதை அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு அதிகமான நிலங்களை பொதுஜன பிரயோஜனத்தை எதிர் பாராமல் வருவாயைப் பெருக்கவேண்டும் என்ற எண்ணத்துடன் அதிகமாக பட்டா கொடுத்துக் கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது குளங்களில் மழை பெய்தும் தண்ணீர் நிரம்பி இல்லாததால் அதன் உள்வாய்களிலும் ஜனங்களுக்கு பயிரிடுவதற்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. இது என்னவாகிறது. அதனால் ஏரி உள்வாய்களில் பயிரிட்டவர்கள் தங்கள் நிலங்கள் விளைய வேண்டுமென்று கீழ் இருக்கும் ஆயக்கட்டிற்கு விருத்தமாக கரைகளைத் திருட்டுத்தனமாக ஏரி பூராவும் ஜலம் பிடிக்க முடியாமல் வெட்டி சாவியாக்கி விடுகிறார்கள். ராம் அதேகம் உற்பத்தி செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று சொல்லும் போது ஆயக்கட்டுகள் பூராவும் போய்விடுகிறது. அதனால் 100, 200 ஏக்கர் நில ஆயக்கட்டுகள் பூராவும் போய்விடுகிறது. இதையும் அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். ஏனென்றால் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் ரொம்பவும் அனுபவம் உள்ளவர். ஆகையால் இந்த விஷயத்தையும் அவர் கவனிப்பார் என்று நான் எதிர் பார்க்கின்றேன்.

“பேசுவதற்கு நேரம் இருந்தால் எவ்வளவோ சொல்லிக்கொண்டு போகலாம். ஆனால், பேசுவதற்கு இப்பொழுது நேரம் இல்லை. எதற்காகச் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால், குறை கூறுவதற்காக அல்ல; நமக்கு இருக்கிற கெடுதல்களை, நமக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற தொல்லைகளை எப்படி நீக்கிக்கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்பதற்காகத்தான் இவைகளைச் சொல்லுகிறேனே தவிர, வேறு எதற்காகவும் சொல்லவில்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக, கதர் அபிவிருத்தி விஷயமாக, முன்னாடியே அவர்களுக்கும் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறேன். கிராமங்களில் உள்ள ஏழை எளியவர்களும், கிழம், குருடு போன்றவர்களும் ஏதோ ஒரு வேலை செய்துப் பிழைப்பதற்காக மகாத்மா காந்திஜி அவர்கள் கதர் திட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்தினார். இதற்கு முன் இருந்த அரசாங்கம் கதருக்காக ஒரு திட்டம் வகுத்திருக்கிறது. அந்தத் திட்டம் சரியாக வேலை செய்யாமல் போலிக் கதர் அதிகமாகி விட்டது. அம்மாதிரி போலிக் கதர் உற்பத்தி செய்வதைத் தடுக்கவும், சர்க்காருடைய திட்டம் சரிவர வேலை செய்யவேண்டும் என்பதற்காகவும் சில உத்தரவுகள் அனுப்பப்பட்டிருந்தன. அந்த உத்தரவுக்குப் பிறகு போலிக் கதர் உற்பத்தி குறைந்து விட்டது என்று சொல்லலாம்.

“இந்த மாகாணத்தில் முதன் முதல் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் தலைமையில் தான் இந்தக் கதர் உற்பத்தி செய்யப்பட்டது. அது மட்டும் அல்ல. கதர் இலாகா எப்படி வேலை செய்கின்றது என்பதைப் பார்த்து, அதைவிட இன்னும் எப்படி நன்றாக வேலை செய்யவேண்டும் என்ற ஒரு முறையில் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் ஒரு ஆச்சிரமத்தை வைத்து நடத்திவந்தார். ராஜாஜி அவர்களுடைய தலைமையில் அந்தக் காலத்தில் வேலை செய்து வந்தோம். அப்படி இருந்தும் அதற்கு விதித்து இருந்த அந்தச்சலுகையை வாபஸ்

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [30th December 1953]

செய்து விட்டார்கள். இதனால் என்ன நிலைமை இப்பொழுது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற தென்று பார்த்தால், அநேக இடங்களில் ராஜாஜி கதர் என்று ரூ. 0-12-0-க்கு போலி கதர் விற்கப்படுகிறது. நான் அரசியல் (Political) நோக்கத்திற்காக இதைச் சொல்லவில்லை. இதைச் சொல்லுவதற்குக் காரணம் என்னவென்றால், பஞ்சம் ஒரு பக்கம் அதிகமாக ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் போது, இம்மாதிரி ஏழைகள் அதிகப்படியாக நூற்கவேண்டும் என்ற முறையிலே மகாத்மா காந்திஜி அவர்கள் கதர்த்திட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்தினார். அதன்படியே நாம் எல்லோரும் uniform ஆக அதை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இப்பொழுது கதர் அணிந்து கொண்டிருப்பவரைப் பார்த்து ஏதோ சிலர் திட்டகிரூர்களை எண்பதற்காக நான் சொல்லவில்லை. அவர்கள் என்ன வேண்டுமானாலும் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளட்டும். அதைப்பற்றி நான் defend பண்ண இப்பொழுது முன்வரவில்லை.

“நான் என்ன சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால், ஏழைகள் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட ஏழைகளில் நூற்றிறவர்களும் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தாரிடமுள்ள கணக்குகளைப் பார்த்தால் நன்றாகத் தெரியும். அரசாங்கத்தில் சில பிரிவுகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு அதில் வேலை செய்தோம் அப்பொழுது 5,000, 6,000 நூற்பவர்கள் இருந்தார்கள். ஆந்திர ராஜ்யம் பிரிந்து போவதற்கு முன்பாக இருந்த சென்னை மாகாணத்தில் 40 ஆயிரம், 50 ஆயிரம் பேர்களுக்கு மேல் இருந்தார்கள். புள்ளி விவரங்களில் தவறு இருந்தால் மன்னிக்கவேண்டும். ஏற்கெனவே இருந்த சலுகைகளை வாபஸ் செய்து விட்டதனால் ஏழைகளுக்கு கிடைத்து வந்த வேலையும் குறைந்துவிட்டது. அதனால், வேலையில்லாத திண்டாட்டம் (unemployment) என்ற கூக்குரல் கிளப்பி இருக்கிறது. படித்தவர்களிடையே மாத்திரம் இந்த வேலையில்லாத திண்டாட்டம் இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்வது முடியாது. ஏனெனில் நாம் எல்லோரும் அப்படித்தான் எண்ணிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். உண்மை அப்படியில்லை. கிராமங்களில் வசிக்கும் பாமரர்கள் பஞ்சத்தில் அடிபட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்காமல் ரொம்பவும் தொந்தரவுக்குள்ளாகி இருக்கிறார்கள். சில மாதுகளுக்கு முன்னால் அவர்களுக்கு ஏதோ 2 அணை, 4 அணை கிடைக்கிறதே அதைக் கூட, அந்தச் சலுகையைக் கூட, சுத்த கதர் திட்ட சலுகையை, வாபஸ் (withdraw) வாங்கிக்கொண்டுவிட்டதனால், அவர்களுக்கு தொந்தரவு உண்டாகியிருக்கிறதென்பதைச் சுட்டிக் காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். தெரியாதவர்கள் அல்ல. தெரிந்தும் தெரியாமல் நடந்திருக்கலாம். அதைப் புனராலோசனை செய்து, அதிகம் செய்யாவிட்டாலும், ஏற்கெனவே இருந்த நிலையையாவது வைத்துக்கொள்ளுவார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

“மத்திய அரசாங்கம் முன்பெல்லாம் கதரைப் பற்றி எவ்வளவு பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தாலும், ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை. இப்பொழுது “cess” போட்டு, மில்லில் அதிகமாக உர்ப்பத்தி செய்த துணியின் மீது வரி போட்டு, நமக்கும் பணம் கொடுக்க ஆரம்பித்திருக்கக்கூடிய இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் இருக்கிற சலுகையையும் எடுத்துவிட்டது நியாயமா என்பதை யோசிக்க வேண்டும். ஆகையினால், அதைக் கவனிப்பார்களென்று நம்புகிறேன்.

“புதிய ஆரம்பக் கல்வித் திட்டத்தைப் (elementary education) பற்றி எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் பேசப்படுகிறது. நான் கிராமத்தில் வசிப்பதினால் இதைப் பற்றி என்ன நினைக்கிறார்கள் என்று எனக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரியும். குறிப்பாக, படித்தவர்கள் என்று சொன்னால், அதை இரண்டுவிதமாக எடுத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆங்கிலம் படித்தவர்கள் என்றும், மற்ற நாட்டு பாஷைகளைப் படித்தவர்களென்றும் இரண்டு விதமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆங்கிலம் படித்தவர்களுக்குத்தான் உத்தியோகம் அதிகமாகக் கிடைக்கும் என்ற ஒரு குறிக்கோளைக் கொண்டு படித்தவருகிறார்கள். அதை மற்றவர்களும் பின்பற்றித் தங்களும் படித்தால் உத்தியோகம் கிடைக்கும் என்று எல்லோரும் படித்தார்கள். அதனால் மற்ற எல்லா தொந்தரவுகளும் ஏற்படுகின்றன. உத்தியோகம் கிடைக்கவில்லையென்றால், ஜாதி; சமயம், மதம் என்றெல்லாம் வந்து துவேஷம் அதிகமாகிறது. இதுதான் நடக்கிறது. அது மாத்திரமல்ல. அதற்கு படித்தவர்களாகிய நாம் தான் வழிகாட்டி



30th December 1953] [Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar]

யாக இருக்கிறோம். கிராமத்தில் இருக்கிறவர்கள் விழித்துக்கொண்டுவிட்டார்கள். எப்படியோ படித்துவிட்டு உத்தியோகம் பார்க்கவேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு எண்ணத்தில் கிராமத்திலுள்ளவர்களும் இன்றைக்கு நிலைக்கிறார்கள். அவரவர்களுடைய தொழில் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிந்தாலுங்கூட, படித்துவிட்ட பிறகு, அந்தத் தொழிலை மறந்துவிடுகிறார்கள். படிப்பு, தொழில் இரண்டும் வேண்டியது அவசியம் தான். ஆனால், அதற்குத் தகுந்த வசதி, சூழ்நிலை இரண்டும் செய்யாமல், மாகாணம் பூராவும் இந்தக் கொள்கை பரவுப்படியாக விட்டதினால் என்ன ஆய்விட்டது? எல்லா ஊர்களிலும் நம்மைப்பற்றி பெண்கள் முதற்கொண்டு எவ்வளவு குறை கூறுகிறார்கள்? இதை நான் அவசியம் சொல்லித்தான் ஆகவேண்டும். ஏனென்றால், எந்தக் கட்சியாக இருக்கட்டும்; காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, மற்றக் கட்சிகளாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, எல்லாக் கட்சிகளும் ஜனங்களுடைய நன்மைக்காகத்தான் பாடுபட்டுக்கொண்டு, ஒரு கட்சி, மற்ற கட்சியைவிட இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாக ஜனங்களுடைய குறைகளை கவனிப்பதாகச் சொல்லி, ஜனங்களுடைய கவனத்தை கவர்ந்து, அதிலிருந்து அதிகாரத்தை (power) கைப்பற்ற முயற்சிக்கின்றன. இப்பொழுதிலிருக்கிற நிலையிலே வசதி செய்து கொடுக்காமல், அதை நாம் 'introduce' செய்ததினாலே, என்ன ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது? கிராமங்கள் பூராவும் அதிக துவேஷம் ஏற்பட்டு வருகிறது. அந்த துவேஷத்தைக் குறைத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால், காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கம் வருகிற தேர்தலிலே தோல்வியடைந்து ரொம்பவும் தொந்தரவுக்குள்ளாகும். இன்றே நான் அவர்களை எச்சரிக்கின்றேன். நண்பர்கள் அதை யோசிக்காவிட்டால் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டந்தான் உண்டாகும்.

“வேறு கட்சிகளாவது எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து நம்மைவிட அதிகமாக வேலை செய்வதற்கு வந்தால் செய்யட்டும். அதுவும் இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற நிலையில் எந்த கஷ்டமும் ஒன்று சேர்ந்து அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும் படியான நிலையிலே கிடையாது. அதிகத் தொந்தரவுகளுக்கு ஆளாகும்படியான சூழ்நிலையை நாமே உண்டாக்கவேண்டாம் என்பது தான் என்னுடைய தாழ்மையான அபிப்பிராயம். ஏதோ நான் அதிகம் தெரிந்தவன் என்று நினைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டாம். நான் கிராமங்களுக்குச் செல்கிறேன். கிராமங்களிலே என்ன பேசிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள், எந்தெந்த முறையிலே நம்மைப்பற்றிக் கூறுகிறார்கள் என்பது எனக்குத் தெரியும். அது மட்டுமல்ல. ஜாதியைக் கிளப்பிவிட்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். அதையும் நான் ராஜாஜி அவர்களுக்குச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இம்மாதிரி அனாவசியமாக நல்லதைச் செய்யப்போய், அதற்கு இந்த மாதிரி தொந்தரவுகளை நாம் விலைக்கு வாங்கிக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமா என்பது தான், இது தனி மனிதனை மாத்திரம் பொருத்ததல்ல, காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியையும், பொது ஜனங்களையும் பொருத்த விஷயம். அரசாங்கத்தை மெஜாரிட்டி பார்ட்டி நடத்திக்கொண்டு வரும்போது, இன்னும் கீழே போய்க்கொண்டிருந்தால் நன்றாக இல்லை என்பதற்காகத்தான் இதை சொல்லுகிறேன். அதிகமாக நான் இதைப் பற்றி சொல்லவேண்டாம். சொல்லவேண்டுமானால் அதிகம் சொல்லலாம். யாரையும் குறை கூறவேண்டுமென்று நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. இந்த விஷயத்தை நாம் கவனித்து, தகுந்த முறையிலே இன்னும் அதிக கோளாறுகள் உண்டாகாத நிலையிலே ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் அதிக பிடிவாதம் பிடிக்காமல் இந்த விஷயத்தை அவசியம் கவனிப்பார்கள் என்று அவரைத் தாழ்மையுடன் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.”

\* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, before I begin my speech on the budget, I wish to congratulate you on your re-election as the Deputy Chairman and I am glad that I am speaking when you are presiding over this House.

“ The present budget is not an ordinary budget and anyone who takes part in the discussion need not touch upon points which one generally does when a regular Budget is presented. This is what the Hon. Chief Minister said when he presented this Budget :

[Sri M. P. Govinda Menon]

[30th December 1953]

'This present Budget is almost in the nature of a Supplementary Demand.' Much of the appropriation has already been expended, and the balance is intended for the mere continuance of the Services, already in operation'. Sir, as far as the present budget for six months is concerned, it is not an ordinary budget and therefore the debate need not take place on ordinary lines. But, on this occasion, I should like to impress upon the Government the salient features of the administration which we have in this State. The Hon. Chief Minister, a great leader, says :

'We have, however, to reckon with reality. In the nature of things, a poor people cannot get all that they want immediately.'

I agree with him in this respect. He goes further and says :

'There is no use asking for a miracle.'

Sir, we are not in the days of Miracles. However much we may hope to solve all the problems facing our country, we cannot solve them by miracles. Even if the mightiest Gods from the Heaven come down to this State and govern this country, they will not be able to alleviate the sufferings of the people which this country has inherited from the foreign administration for a century and a half. There are big problems for us to face. Nobody can afford to be impatient over the ills and difficulties which cannot be remedied quickly. We do not expect miracles to happen. As far as I and the Party to which I have the honour to belong and persons who take a real interest in the welfare of this State are concerned, the only complaint is that a right approach has not yet been made. We are enjoying the Independence we got in 1947 for the last six years. The whole administration is not being run on right lines. If it is run on right lines, we would have been patient and the millions of our people would have been patient and would have given a long time for the Government to remedy matters. Unfortunately, we have inherited from the foreigners a top-heavy, over-centralized and bureaucratic administration. I ask, in all earnestness, is there any change in the tone of the administration and in the method of the administration from what it was when the foreigners were ruling this country? Sir, we have distinguished gentlemen sitting on the Treasury Benches, headed by one of the greatest countrymen this country had ever produced. Every nook and corner of Mother India is proud of Rajaji. He has done great things after he took charge of the administration of this State. I ask in all humility and respect the persons concerned in the administration, is there any change in the tone of the administration from what it was before 1947? The Government have got the same kind of officers. We have got twelve Hon. Ministers sitting on the Treasury Bench eleven gentlemen and one lady. What is the necessity for increasing the strength of the Cabinet after the formation of the Andhra State? That is a matter for the Hon. Chief Minister to consider, and I do not want to say anything more on this matter. If he thinks it is necessary to increase the number of Ministers, he may do so. But my only grievance is that our leaders who had taken part in the freedom struggle and achieved freedom from the Britishers and who are now sitting on the Treasury Bench, have not



30th December 1953] [Sri M. P. Govinda Menon]

made any change in the administration. Still, we have the same overcentralized administration, the same top-heavy administration and the same red-tapism running from head to foot. We are carrying on our affairs in the same way as we did before we got our freedom. The man-in-the-street feels that in spite of the achievement of freedom, there has not been any change in the administration of this State. Look at the Revenue Board. Ever since I became a Member of the Madras Legislature, I have been crying hoarse in every budget debate both in the last Assembly and in this House, that the Revenue Board should be abolished. It exists only for checking all new measures of reform. A Board which does not make people move in the right direction must be abolished at all costs. Last time when I urged the Government to abolish it, the Hon. the Chief Minister, though at first he appeared to be against my proposal, said that he was going to abolish it. Still, no change has been made and the Board of Revenue still continues. What is the difficulty in abolishing it? I cannot understand why even our great Rajaji is not able to effect any change. Of course, I agree with my hon. Friend Dr. John that the Congress Party has come to a stage of stagnation where it is not humanly possible to improve it. I am not speaking against my parental organization in which I had worked for thirty years and shed my blood. But unfortunately that organization now consists of persons who do not move in the right direction, and our Rajaji is not allowed to move on and abolish the Board of Revenue. Not only the Board of Revenue but also other unnecessary posts are retained. There are innumerable posts in this State which are not necessary for carrying out the day to day administration of this State. For instance, if we have one Registrar, we have a Joint Registrar, an Additional Joint Registrar, a Deputy Registrar and a Sub-Deputy Registrar not to mention other subordinates. There is no need to have such a large number of posts. If we want a real change and if we want a miracle to happen, a definite approach should be made and that approach is decentralization. Therein lies the miracle. In this respect, I agree with hon. Member Dr. John. Even the great Father of our Nation had been harping upon this decentralization and he wanted that our villages should be governed as self-sufficient Republics, autonomous republics and *grama sangams*. We must have that ideal before us. My plea is to decentralize the whole administration. We can have a decentralized economy also. My great leader, Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, was dealing with khadi this morning. What has happened to khadi is a painful thing. During the days of the struggle for freedom many people had devoted the whole of their lives to the spreading of the message of the charka. There were people who were prepared to suffer any amount of insults and even physical assault to carry on propaganda for prohibition. They were patiently picketing before toddy and arrack shops receiving insults. Now, it is a wonder that when the Congress Party has come into power we have not got the men to carry out the policy of khadi, the policy of prohibition and the policy of encouraging cottage industries. Mr. Deputy Chairman, so far as the policy of prohibition is concerned, I am wedded to it and will stand by it till the last drop

1 p.m.

[Sri M. P. Govinda Menon]

[30th December 1953]

of blood in me. Whatever people may say, we must see that we carry on with prohibition. Of course, I know that it is not being properly worked and has resulted in illicit distillation being established as a cottage industry."

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Member can continue his speech in the afternoon. The House will now rise for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

(Mr. Chairman was in the Chair.)

\* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was referring to the failure in regard to the working of prohibition. It does not mean that I am against prohibition as such. According to me the failure is due to the lack of enthusiasm among the people. During the course of the freedom struggle there were thousands of young men and women who were prepared to make sacrifices for the cause of prohibition. It is a wonder to me that when we have got the administration in our own hands we are unable to create the same enthusiasm among the people. That is why I said that the approach of the Government towards big problems was not proper. If it had only been the correct approach there could never have been any difficulty in carrying out the great reforms which had been thought of by the Father of the Nation and which he had been preaching for a long number of years. Let us hope that where men have failed a woman may succeed. Till now the Hon. Ministers who had been in charge of Prohibition had not been completely successful in carrying out the Prohibition policy. Let us hope that the lady Minister in charge of Prohibition now will be able to turn out better work.

" We have now got Five-Year Plans, Community Projects and what is known as the National Extension Scheme besides many other schemes. In spite of all these schemes, and in spite of the crores of rupees spent on the schemes, Mr. Chairman, what is the position of the country to-day? Unemployment has increased by leaps and bounds. Just now, this morning during question hour there was a question about child-beggars in the City of Madras. It is so not only in Madras. I know the conditions in Malabar. In every nook and corner and in every village of Malabar there are swarms of unemployed people. Men, women and children have been thrown out of employment and have been driven to the necessity of begging to eke out their livelihood. Of course, when Hon. Ministers visit these places, these beggars are removed from the streets. I know that when the Hon. the Chief Minister, our great Rajaji, visited Palghat last year, the Police and the Congress people were anxious that Rajaji must not see any beggar in the streets of the town of Palghat. Therefore they took them in lorries to a distance of about 40 or 50 miles and left them in the midst of forests as if Rajaji does not know the conditions in our country! Rajaji was our great leader in the freedom struggle and he knew the conditions of the millions of down-trodden people in our country.



30th December 1953] [Sri M. P. Govinda Menon]

Yet, these people were anxious to keep the beggars away from his view. Begging has increased in Malabar and it is a wonder that poor Malabar has been subjected to invasion by large numbers of beggars from even the remotest parts of Tamilnad. It is probably so because of the failure of the handloom industry. May I ask whether we are a nation of beggars or are we converting ourselves into a nation consisting only of beggars? It is high time that we found a remedy."

**SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:**—"கனம், தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்தப் பிச்சைக்காரர் பிரச்சினை, சென்ற ஒரு வருஷமாகத்தான் இருக்கிறதா அல்லது இதற்கு முன் இருந்தே தொடர்ந்து இருக்கிறதா?"

\* **SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:**—"பல வருஷங்களாகத்தான் இருக்கிறது; ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அதிகமாய் இருக்கிறது."

"I am not saying all these just for criticism's sake but because I have a soft corner for the party which is now ruling the country and also because I feel the pinch of these things. People can see for themselves that begging has increased by leaps and bounds because people have no employment. I will just give an example. In Palghat taluk there are 110 villages and there are 130 rice mills working in that area. In the olden days the women in our villages were eking out their livelihood by pounding paddy into rice. Pounding of rice was a profession in which they were engaged. Now they are deprived of this means of livelihood by the coming into existence of a large number of rice mills. Why should not the Government stop licensing these mills? Are the Government existing for the purpose of enriching the already rich people? Do they exist only for industrialisation and for replacing human labour by machinery? Why cannot we go back to the days of the cottage industries and give protection to these cottage industries? The other day Sri V. K. Krishna Menon, our great Ambassador representative in the United Nations, speaking in the Council of States on the Malthusian theory that the means of livelihood cannot meet the increase in population said that when God created mouths he also created two hands and with the two hands available one mouth could easily be fed. It is quite all right but it is also a fact that Satan has created machinery in anticipation of God creating two hands. Mechanisation has increased by leaps and bounds in our country. We are borrowing American and foreign machinery for increasing the wealth of our country with the result that the villages are going to dogs. The villagers have no scope for employment and this Government have converted the already hopeless villages into villages of beggars though mechanisation might have enriched a few cities and towns. This is the kind of wrong approach which I want to place before this House."

"Coming to irrigation, I must thank this Government and also the Central Government for giving the people of Malabar the Malam-puzha Project. I am sorry the Hon. Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam is not here. While he was the Minister in charge of Public Works he did us a great service by initiating this Project and helping to push it through. For so many years Malabar has been neglected in

[Sri M. P. Govinda Menon] [30th December 1953]

regard to irrigation projects. The next important irrigation scheme is the Kanchirapuzha Project and I hope this Government will take it up as early as possible. I also wish to place before this House the views which we the people of Malabar have in regard to irrigation. The Hon. the Chief Minister has also referred to this aspect when he presented the Budget. He says, 'I personally believe we should hereafter turn our attention to the numerous minor sources of water and try to conserve whatever rain falls occasionally, for the benefit of these scattered areas where now life is nothing but continual privation of all kinds.' I have no objection to big irrigation schemes but as far as Malabar is concerned big irrigation schemes alone cannot solve our problems. Malabar has always been a deficit district and even a sane politician like the hon. Member Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddier has said that Malabar is a curse or a burden on the State. I am sorry to say this but I must say that your forefathers have cheated us and deprived Malabar of irrigation facilities and you must therefore atone for the sins of your forefathers. The topography of Malabar is very very difficult for the execution of big irrigation schemes. If cultivation is to be improved in Malabar we want smaller irrigation schemes for each village. I would request the Government to chalk out a programme of minor irrigation works for each village in Malabar. I am sure the Hon. the Chief Minister will be able to carry out such small irrigation schemes through village organizations or village councils in a decentralised form of Government. I hope the Government would seriously think about it as it is the best way of tackling the minor irrigation problems of Malabar.

"Sir, I congratulate the rest of the State, especially Tamilnad, on the very good monsoon it had. Here again, my district has been very unfortunate. Though the north-east monsoon began with great promises it unfortunately failed terribly this year as regards Malabar. When the Hon. the Chief Minister came to Malabar he was struck by the green appearance of the district. He complimented and congratulated us and said that we were assured of a good harvest.

2-40 P.M. "The Hon. the Chief Minister is not here and I do not wish to say anything in his absence. After the Hon. the Chief Minister returned from Malabar, the tables have been turned and there is not even a drop of rain. (Laughter.) I do not wish to suggest that there was '*Thrishti Thosham*' but the fact that there was no rain after his visit to Malabar is there, and this has resulted in the terrible failure of the crops. The people of Malabar are in a very bad condition. The price of paddy is shooting up like anything. I do not know how the Government are going to curb the present trend of rising prices. The Government have recently changed the old food zonal system and have made the district of Malabar a separate zone which has resulted in the people having to pay increased price for rice. I request the Hon. the Minister in charge of Finance who comes from my neighbouring district—Coimbatore—to remove the present zonal system of constituting the district of Malabar into a separate zone. I see the Hon. Minister for Finance shaking



30th December 1953] [Sri M. P. Govinda Menon]

his head. If he is not willing to remove it, then the people of Malabar district will have to suffer. I am sure, if he is a Malayalee, he will certainly appreciate the sufferings of lakhs of people of my district. Unfortunately he is not very much impressed by my appeal. I hope events will compel him to change his views on the present zonal system and will make him abolish it."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have an open mind in the matter."

\* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" I thank the Hon. Minister and I feel there is still some hope.

" Coming to educational policy, I have nothing to say about the modified scheme of elementary education. I hope there will be a discussion on that scheme on another occasion. I have got a soft corner for this scheme, and there is something revolutionary in it. I want that scheme to be worked. Whatever be the scheme—the modified elementary education scheme or any other—the Government themselves must work the scheme and not entrust it to private agencies, under the Grants-in-aid system. The grants-in-aid system which is prevalent in my district of Malabar is working havoc among teachers and managers of aided schools. The teachers and managers of aided schools are always quarrelling. After all, as the Paruleker Committee on Elementary Education has pointed out, 93 per cent of the money spent on elementary education is borne either by the Government or by the local bodies and only 7 per cent of expenditure is borne by the aided managements. I do not know why the Government should not take courage in both hands and themselves take charge of elementary education. If the finances of the State cannot permit it, at least they can make a beginning with my district of Malabar where there are a large number of elementary schools and where also the relations between the teachers and managers of aided schools are very much strained, and run all elementary schools as Government institutions."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This is the kind of decentralization the hon. Member wants."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" I am all for complete decentralisation. I want that panchayats and village councils should be given enough powers to run these schools and that the Government should give money to these bodies to run them.

" Only one word more and that is about the functioning of communal organizations. This country had already enough trouble from the communal organizations. It is very unfortunate the present Government are encouraging communal organizations in the State. I am coming from the district of Malabar and I know that Government always encourages the Muslim League party. The All-India Muslim League is only an All-India organization in name and does not function anywhere in the State except in the district of Malabar and even there only in two taluks—Ernad and Walluvanad. In the Assembly, there are five Members representing the

[Sri M. P. Govinda Menon] [30th December 1953]

Muslim League Party. As a result of the activities of this party, branches of the Hindu Mahasabha and the R.S.S. are springing up there. Recently there was a conference of the All-India Muslim League Party at Palghat in my district wherein very many nasty things were stated and even our great Prime Minister Pandit Nehru was insulted in bad language. There was great agitation over this and immediately after this conference, Sri Rajaji came to Malabar and things were pacified. I am told that Muslim League Members were even invited to attend Congress Party meetings and if this is so, I can only say there will be more and more communal trouble. With these words, I thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on the Budget."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech has stated that we will have another opportunity to discuss State policies and that we need not take much time over the details of the present Budget. All the same, I wish to offer a few remarks so that the Government may consider them in framing the Budget for the next year. At the outset, I should like to congratulate the new Ministers who have been recently appointed and the Woman Minister among them. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition questioned about the distribution of various portfolios among the Ministers. That, of course, is a matter within the competence of the Hon. the Chief Minister and this House may not discuss it. But I may say, that as far as Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam is concerned the rich experience he has had as Minister in charge of Public Works Department will stand him in good stead in tackling the great problems relating to agriculture and community projects. Already he has taken up these subjects very seriously and I know these subjects of rural importance will be handled by him thoroughly well. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition also referred to the fact that the Hon. Dr. U. Krishna Rao was entrusted with subjects like Industries, Labour and Co-operation and not Medical. May I point out that there are many doctors just as lawyers who fill places such as Vice-Chancellor, Mayor, etc., eminently well and that a doctor is now the Chairman of this Council and that they are discharging their duties with great credit. I think, Sir, the remark made by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition is not quite appropriate and that Dr. U. Krishna Rao is administering the portfolios entrusted to him magnificently well. We should congratulate ourselves that the estimated budget for this half year leaves a surplus of Rs. 23 lakhs and that we are on a fair way to ensure financial stability in our State. The revision of the Court Fees Act was expected to yield a substantial revenue and it is a pity that the Government have not yet taken up the necessary legislation. As far as I know, a Special Officer is put on the job in the Home Department for the last two years. The Government should expedite the introduction of the Bill, so that we may have the benefit of the measure at least in 1954-55. The Finance Minister has envisaged the possibility of the levy of a betterment fee in special localities benefited by Irrigation and Electricity schemes. I believe the levy of a reasonable betterment fee



30th December 1953] [Sri T. Purushotham]

from persons benefited should not be viewed as a fresh taxation measure and this will not with any justification be objected to by anyone.

“ With the formation of the Andhra State, I expected drastic retrenchment and reorganization of the Government departments in the Residuary State but no steps have been taken so far. True the Madras Secretariat has been reorganized in a way, but I am constrained to remark that the reorganization has not been done on a satisfactory basis. Some of the Departments as now reconstituted are too big, and the work in some departments is comparatively less. In one unwieldy department, it is learnt more Deputy Secretaries are to be appointed. Instead of appointing additional Deputy Secretaries it would be more economical to have separate Departments with one Secretary and one or two Assistant Secretaries for each Department. The Secretariat procedure should be radically changed by the devolution of all routine powers on the heads of departments. Only references relating to ministerial policies and top level administrative sanctions should be dealt within the Secretariat.

2-50  
p.m

“ The Government have proposed the reorganization of the Board of Revenue. It is understood that instead of the present functional distribution of work among the members of the Board of Revenue, a scheme of regional distribution would be introduced as a measure of administrative convenience. Whatever may be the justification for this scheme, I should emphatically warn Government against any increase in the present strength of the members of the Board of Revenue. My friend Mr. Govinda Menon had spoken just now and pressed for the total abolition of the Board of Revenue. In the light of his speech, there is no justification at all for any further increase in the strength of the Board. I should also like to add that the proposed redistribution of duties among the members of the Board would be unworkable and land in confusion. It has been stated that young and inexperienced Collectors are posted to the districts and that they need guidance and supervision by senior officers. If that is so, the Government ought to take away the senior hands from the Secretariat and the offices of the heads of departments and post them as Collectors, for after all the success of the Government depends on the efficiency of the district administration. Junior administrative officers may be drafted to the Secretariat. The Secretariat after all is governed by set business rules and precedents and the permanent staff in the Secretariat is highly efficient and thorough in administrative matters and the practice of posting senior I.A.S. officers to the Secretariat could well be given up. Though a few seniors may be kept as Secretaries, experienced Collectors need not be drafted as Deputy Secretaries.

“ The policy of re-entertainment of retired officers needs revision. Such re-employment blocks the chances of promotion of younger men in service who are thus denied the chance of getting the higher posts in their respective departments and damps their enthusiasm. This undesirable feature is largely evident in the recent appointment of Chief Engineers in the P.W.D. I do not deny that the

[Sri T. Purushotham] [30th December 1953]

officers concerned are highly capable and efficient, and that their services would be really useful to the State. In such cases, instead of constituting them in the regular cadre as heads of departments they may be constituted into a P.W.D. Advisory Board and their services may be utilized by Government on reasonable terms and they could advise Government with their rich experience on matters relating to the execution of several public works schemes, scrutiny and revision of plans and estimates at Government level and so on. Such an expert body is highly necessary and would act as a check on the Department too.

"In the list of new schemes included in the present Budget, a recurring expenditure of Rs. 7,12,100 is provided for reorganization of the Commercial Taxes Department. The details of the proposed reorganization have not been furnished. I hope the Government would place a copy of the Government Order sanctioning the reorganization scheme for the information of this House. Serious allegations have been made against Sales Tax administration. It is stated that harassment and oppressive measures are common features of this Department. The Government ought not to allow such practices to go unchecked. This should be thoroughly investigated and public confidence in the department should be restored.

"It is learnt that general amendment of the Constitution of India is under active consideration and that the State Government have been asked to state their views. The Government are perfectly aware that there is a certain amount of reasonable public discontent that in the matter of appointments to offices under the State and admission to Government educational institutions and more particularly the professional colleges, justice is not being done to all classes of citizens in the State and that equal opportunities are not given to them in view of the present constitutional difficulties. The social conditions in this State are peculiar and certain protection is called for in the interests of progress of all classes of citizens. I would therefore urge that necessary changes in the Constitution should be effected and that the State Government should convey this to the Central Government. Articles 15 (5), 16 (6) and 29 (3) of the Constitution should be amended by addition of a clause to the effect that nothing in the said Articles shall prevent the State from making special provision for the reservation of appointments or posts or seats in educational institutions in favour of any class of citizens in proportion to the strength of its population. Such a clause may, if necessary, be in operation for a stated period.

3 p.m.

"Speaking of the Constitution, I wish to refer to legislative procedure in this House. Article 196 (1) provides that Bills 'may originate in either House of the Legislature of a State which has a Legislative Council'. I would suggest that the Government should first introduce some of the Bills in this House. A convention should be set up that Bills to be moved by Ministers who are members of this House should first come up in this House. This wholesome practice is, I believe, followed in the Central Legislature and a similar convention may be set up here. I appeal to you and the Leader of the House to consider this. In the matter of constituting



30th December 1953] [Sri T. Purushotham]

Public Accounts Committee also a few members of this House should be put on it. Under Article 204 of the Constitution, Appropriation Bills have to be passed by both Houses of Legislature and it is evident that this House has its share of financial responsibility and I hold that there should be representation of this House on the Public Accounts Committee. I have noted in the papers that recently in the Central Legislature such a scheme has been introduced.

“ The educational policy of government has come in for good lot of criticism and was referred to by my hon. Friend Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar. I really expected much from the Parulekar Committee, but I find the report is a glorious annotation of the ‘ Guide book on the Modified Scheme of Elementary Education ’ issued by the Madras Government. No one denies the importance of craft work and manual training in any scheme of education. Even a reduction of school hours may not be objected to. But a thorough scheme of class room learning and manual work under the guidance of the school authorities should be evolved. Even the Parulekar Committee is emphatic that without radical improvements and modifications the scheme would be unworkable. The scheme has been hastily introduced and it should be suspended pending further consideration and evolution of a satisfactory system. The rural public are against it. Instead of an increase in the strength of school going population, deterioration has set in. The pupils are withdrawn and sent to unorganized pial schools in certain localities. The Government should not stand on prestige. The scheme should be withdrawn and a better scheme should be introduced. Also the costly establishment of special officer and gazetted and non-gazetted assistants sanctioned for implementation of the scheme should be disbanded.

“ We find in to-day’s papers that in Andhra State, a Committee has been constituted with the permission of the Prime Minister of India to study the working of Prohibition and report on the steps to be taken to remedy the existing conditions. The conditions in our State are the same, the result of the Prohibition Scheme of the composite State. This State Government also should appoint a Committee to go into this question.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ With regard to the formation of a Committee by the Andhra State, I would like to be enlightened by the hon. Member whether the statement, that a Committee has been constituted with the permission of the Prime Minister of India, is correct.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ That is what I learn from the papers, Sir.

“ There is a drive for ‘ Bhoodan Yagna ’ in the country and the response has been good in our State. Vigorous Bhoodan Scheme should be implemented by Government in respect of their own lands. The assignment of lands to landless poor should be undertaken on an organized basis. As it is, the process of land assignment is tedious. The Government should not wait for applications. The

[Sri T. Purushotham] [30th December 1953]

Government should list out vacant lands for assignment in each village and assign them to the deserving poor in the village and encourage them to improve and cultivate them by giving them free gift of seeds and also loan for purchase of bulls, etc.

“Turning to the Ministry of Local Administration, it is stated that the Government propose to appoint a high level Committee to go into the whole question of the future structure of the local bodies in the State. Two Committees went into these matters, Ratnasabapathy Mudaliar Committee relating to Municipalities and Kuttikrishna Menon Committee on the future of district boards and the reports of the two committees have not been published and no orders have been passed so far. The Government should tell the public why the reports have been shelved. The proposal to revive the taluk boards should be considered thoroughly and no hasty legislation, half-baked and ill-digested, should be undertaken. The financial aspect of the proposal should be seriously considered. Instead of creating taluk boards, with all the powers of the district boards, I would commend the creation of functional boards. We may have Taluk Education Boards to deal with elementary education. If the district boards are to be abolished, all the District Board Secondary Schools and Local Fund Dispensaries should be taken over by Government. The taluk boards would not be able to maintain them efficiently. I am glad provision has been made in the budget under the head ‘50. Civil Works’ for grants-in-aid to local bodies for five water-supply schemes and one drainage scheme. But meagre amounts have been provided for expenditure this year. For instance, as against a scheme of Rs. 4.85 lakhs for Thiruvettipuram Panchayat Water-supply Scheme a sum of Rs. 10,000 has been allotted for expenditure this year. Adequate amounts should be provided and the schemes should be pushed through expeditiously and completed according to plan.

3-10 P.m. “The question of providing railway over-bridges in Madras City has not been tackled. The Central Government have stated that the State Government should take up the question with the Madras City Corporation. The financial arrangement for providing the over-bridges should be settled between the Central Government, the Madras Government and the Corporation of Madras. If the Corporation is unable to find its share, the Government should give the amount as loan to the Corporation and address the Central Government for early action.

“The Hon. Dr. U. Krishna Rao, Minister for Transport in his speech winding up consideration of the Madras Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers and Goods) Bill, 1952, in this House said : ‘The budget is only for one year. Whether a measure is permanent or not depends on how we look at things. I look at this measure as a temporary measure. It will be watched carefully and if any special hardships arise, we will consider them’. The bus operators are hard up and the surcharge has affected them badly. The Government ought to consider their case and see that adequate relief is given to them. In a recent case questioning the validity of this measure,



30th December 1953] [Sri T. Purushotham]

the High Court has held that the first proviso to section 3 of the Act is not valid and that the tax is a levy on passengers. But actually it is the motor owners who are obliged to pay this tax. This is opposed to the spirit of the judgment. It has been admitted by the Hon. Minister himself that the motor owners are not getting as much income as they were getting prior to the imposition of this tax. I hope the Government will consider the desirability of giving some relief to motor transport owners.

“ Sir, with the passing of the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, the estate villages and village establishments were taken over by Government. The village officers in the estates taken over should be granted pay and allowances on the scales applicable to those in ryotwari areas. There should be no disparity in the scales of pay, etc., among the village officers and the pay of the erstwhile estate village officers should be revised as in ryotwari villages with effect from the date the estates were taken over by Government. I request Government to examine this question and issue orders for revision of the salaries accordingly.

“ On a perusal of the list of Police establishments I find a category of posts as ‘ Sergeants ’ and ‘ Sergeant-Majors ’. These posts were in vogue to provide appointment for particular communities. In the changed circumstances there is no need for such categories designated after military ranks. They all do the same duties as Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors of Police. They are however given some extra concession as free supply of uniform, etc. There ought to be no such discrimination in the Police force. They may all be ranked as Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors and the separate categories ‘ Sergeants ’ and ‘ Sergeant-Majors ’ may be abolished.

“ In moving the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Bill 1953, the Hon. Rajah of Ramnad, Minister in-charge, assured this House that it was not the intention of the Government to continue the accommodation control beyond a very reasonable time. He said : ‘ The State is to be partitioned and it may be that there may not be any necessity to continue this Act and it is very likely we will be repealing the Act as early as possible ’. I wish to invite the attention of the Government to this statement and request them to examine the position and if circumstances permit, the accommodation control may be removed. Whatever the justification for control of residential accommodation, I feel there is no need to apply such control to non-residential buildings. I believe that the Government would do well to take away non-residential buildings from control. In a free country, the right of private persons to use or lease their property without State interference should be respected subject to necessary safeguards against exploitation.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ I fix a time-limit of fifteen minutes for each speaker.”

\* SRI T. G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—“ Sir, we are supposed to be discussing the budget. I find from the newspapers that our friends of the Legislative Assembly are going about telling the

[Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi] [30th December 1953]

country that they have passed the budget. But we are in the stage of discussing the budget. It is usual for the Members of this House to call such a discussion as a post-mortem examination. It appears that this is not only a post-mortem examination, but a post-mortem examination after exhuming the body. That is the position we are in. Of course, this matter was discussed on the first day of the present session of this House. I was even thinking what exactly was the use of being a Member of this House unless it be to derive some satisfaction from the fact that I could call myself a colleague of eminent men like hon. Members Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar and others. No other purpose seems to be served by this House at all. Some people think and even our revered Chief Minister thinks that this House has no other use except to serve as a vehicle to ride into the Cabinet. That is the treatment accorded to this House and there is no use of crying over spilt milk.

"Coming to the budget, hon. Members who spoke just before me have made references to so many facts. In the Hon. Chief Minister's speech, I find the following very nice and welcome sentence: 'No State can afford to be rigidly constrained by old fashioned laws to the detriment of progress and the more even distribution of wealth.' But I wonder if the present budget has been prepared in that spirit of progress and renovation. The excuse may be advanced that this is not a budget in the full sense of the term but just a demand for grant for expenses already incurred. But still, in respect of the budget for the ensuing year at least, we can give certain suggestions which the Government will do well to accept, if they are willing and if they prefer to go by the principle contained in the sentence which I have quoted from the speech of the Hon. Chief Minister.

"Hon. Member, Dr. V. K. John, referred to the tax structure of the State. Everybody has come to feel that there is something terribly wrong in the tax structure of our country and that some radical alteration is necessary. Of late we have been hearing that the multi-point sales-tax should be abolished and the single-point sales-tax should be introduced. Of course, it is a fact that so long as the merchants or commercial classes have been able to transfer the incidence of this tax to the consumer, they have been keeping quiet. But now times have changed and the incidence falls flat on their shoulders. Simply because the commercial community feel that they cannot transfer the incidence of this tax to the consumers but have to bear it themselves, they are grumbling. But on that ground we cannot say that their grumbling is not justified. What is a country if its commerce is at a standstill?

3-20  
p.m.

"The commerce and trade of a country should flourish if the country has to prosper. Now it appears that we are strangling the commercial community. The advocates of multi-point sales-tax seem to say that already there is plenty of evasion, and if we introduce a single-point sales-tax, even if we enhance the rate of tax, there will be a large evasion and we may not realise the Rs. 9



30th December 1953] [Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi]

crores or Rs. 10 crores which we are now realising every year from that tax. But there is evasion in every direction. I recollect the amusing definition in the Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable about 'pick-pockets'. Originally people had only purses, and they carried their purses in their belts, which the thieves used to cut, and they were called 'cut-purses'. So people abandoned the idea of purses and took to pockets, and promptly the 'cut-purses' became 'pick-pockets'. So, if the Government devise new means of preventing evasion, new means of evasion will be found by the commercial classes. Somehow or other we have to try and get our revenue. There is the danger of commerce getting stifled. What do we see in the country? Railway traffic has fallen down. The movement of goods is not there. Commodity movement is not there. The bus traffic has fallen down. The lorry traffic has fallen steeply. What does this show? It shows that the prosperity of the country goes to dogs. The taxable capacity of the people is very low, and the Government are helpless to increase their capacity. Have we any source untapped which we can tax?"

\* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"There are Members of the Legislature!"

\* SRI T. G. KRISHNAMURTHI:—"Yes, there are Members and also Ministers!"

"Under the motor vehicles tax, I find that the Government realised Rs. 171 lakhs. This includes Rs. 27 lakhs realised under the Act that was passed this year, namely, the Taxation of Passengers and Goods Act, 1952. We have collected Rs. 27 lakhs under this new Act. What are we doing thereby? We are collecting a pittance of Rs. 27 lakhs and the small bus operators are going to dogs. The Government seem to be afraid of bigger operators. As soon as the Congress came into power, they gave up the original Advisers' idea of large fleets and wanted to encourage the small operators. What is happening now? This Rs. 27 lakhs is the last straw on the back of the small operator who is disappearing from the field.

"Next we come to the question of how we can find a substitute for this tax and how we can keep up our revenues by giving some tax relief to the commercial classes and the people. In the field of agriculture, there may be some scope. Now we have what is called the kist collection. We collect from a man owning 50 cents the same rate which a man owning hundreds and thousands of acres pays. My suggestion is that small holdings can be exempted and larger holdings can be progressively taxed, and agricultural single-point sales-tax can be introduced. While all other classes of people are being taxed, richer agriculturists are not taxed properly to the extent they ought to be. The Government can think of this. Coming to the next point, I think that the profession of the hon. Gentleman Dr. V. K. John can be taxed. (Hear, hear.) They pay income-tax of course. \* I cannot say they will evade it.

[Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi] [30th December 1953]

(Interruption by Sri M. P. Govinda Menon.) Lawyers can be taxed at the rate at which they collect fees from their clients. This tax can be introduced. I suggest that the Government should find new ways of realising taxes. Hon. Member Dr. V. K. John seems to object to Government borrowing on a large scale. A Government that does not borrow is not following sound Public Finance. I would even go to the extent of saying that the present surplus budget is not a wise move. When we are passing through a period of special travail and when we need every source of revenue we can get hold of for our development projects, the Government are producing a surplus budget. The Government of India will say that we have no schemes and we have shown a surplus budget, and will ask us 'why do you ask for grants and assistance from us?' "

\* SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" This is a surplus budget after loans are given."

\* SRI T. G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" That is all right. We should have more schemes if the Government of India should come to our assistance. I am stating this in passing; not that no Government should produce a surplus budget. I do not mean that the Government should borrow. What is the meaning of Government borrowing? They are bringing out the hoarded savings of the people, and the hoarded savings of the people must be used by the Government for executing development projects. By undertaking the execution of any number of large projects, the Government can distribute money among, and increase the purchasing power of, the people. And then commerce will flourish. We have then a cycle of prosperity.

' Now I come to nationalization. The Government can augment their revenues by first of all nationalizing in the State all City Bus transports. The Government have nationalized the bus transport in Madras City alone. They seem to be getting a profit of Rs. 8 lakhs or Rs. 9 lakhs per annum. A private operator will definitely show three times more profit than the Government are able to show, because somebody defined the Government as an organization which has neither a body to be kicked nor a soul to be damned. Nobody takes responsibility in a Government organization. If something goes bad, nobody is responsible. We cannot fix the responsibility. If there is something good, even then we cannot fix the responsibility because there will be too many people to claim credit for the good work to themselves. If only we can manage the nationalized bus transport with better control, we can produce as much profit as even the private operators are able to do and increase the revenue of our exchequer. In the bus transport affair, I find a sum of about Rs. 20 lakhs set apart for repair and other charges. I learn from private operators that an operator having 300 buses will have to spend only Rs. 10 lakhs for repairs and other charges. There seems to be some waste in Government transport. If this is checked, nationalization of bus transport in the Cities in the first instance will come in handy. The Congress



30th December 1953] [Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi]

organization, Mr. Chairman, is wedded to do good to the people, to grant relief to the people, to collect less taxes and do more work. That is the principle the Congress is wedded to. Our Chief Minister has stated that a more even distribution of wealth is his motto, and his objective. Towards that end we are progressing, and there is a feeling in the country that taxation is very heavy; it is ill-distributed, and it pinches where it ought not to. This is the position of our country. Some way ought to be found. It is of no use travelling along the old ruts in which we have been travelling.

“Coming to the Congress organization, Sir, the objective of achieving the goal of equitable distribution of wealth can be possible only if Government undertook proper legislation for taxation, the proper means of tapping the sources of revenue, and also large schemes calculated for the benefit of our people. Hon. Member Dr. V. K. John was sure that the Congress organization was not going to achieve all these things, because it was capitalistic, and there were zamindars in its ranks. He decided that he was going to be the leader of the ‘have-nots’. It is a most amusing statement!. When and how did he decide to espouse the cause of the ‘have-nots’? I concluded later on, perhaps it was in his luxurious and palatial residence in Kodaikanal during the cool months, being satisfied with himself and the rest of the country, and being satisfied with his financial position, he suddenly decided that he should espouse the cause of the ‘have-nots’ and throw out the Congress organization, which had a very undersirable leader in Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who was having the capitalistic habit of not owning even a house, not to speak of property! He wanted to do away with the Congress that did away with the zamindars, who were his rich clients, and, as a fair solution, offered one zamindar a Ministership, another a Rajapramukship and a third a Governorship. Of course, it is very fashionable to speak about ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’. But I am not surprised that hon. Member Dr. V. K. John and people of his liking feel that the Congress organization should go because they realise full well that the Congress organization while denouncing the ways of the Communists is gradually, surreptitiously, and irrevocably travelling towards a goal where even hon. Member Dr. John’s Kodaikanal residence may be thrown open to the rabble of the Carnatic Mills for their holidaying.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“The hon. Member’s time is up.”

SRI T. G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—“Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take, just as hon. Member Mr. Purushotham did, five minutes more. (Interruption.) I am quoting the precedent. 3-30 P.M.

“The next subject I want to deal with is the Modified Scheme of Elementary Education on which the hon. Members Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar and Sri Purushotham spoke. Of course, much has been said about it here and elsewhere. But I am wondering why people call it a scheme at all. It was Gibbon who

[Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi] [30th December 1953]

said about the 'Holy Roman Empire' that it was neither holy nor Roman nor an Empire. Similarly, this is neither a scheme nor a policy nor a principle. What has been done is that simply the shift system has been introduced. The children are not looked after in their extra-curricular hours. 'Nothing has been done to help the pupils. At last, a wonderful committee was appointed, of course, composed of very erudite men who said, 'We saw nothing because there was nothing to see; we read nothing because there was nothing to read; we discussed nothing because there was nothing to discuss. Yet, we have come to a decision on the scheme—which is wonderful—which can be successfully implemented, provided the Government are prepared to spend a further sum of Rs. 10 crores on elementary education. On this basis, we have suggested some modifications to the scheme.' Unless one wants to stick to it as a fad, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by sticking on to a scheme that is doing good neither to the pupils whom it is intended to benefit nor to the Government who try to profit in popularity by the introduction of such a scheme. Anyway, so long as it is not going to cost the Government and the tax-payer any money, I have no objection for Government flirting with the idea for sometime longer. I have no objection to it in that way. But, I would appeal to the Government, in conclusion, that at least when they prepare the next Budget, they may take into consideration all these facts and announce to the oppressed people of the State of Madras tax relief. Hon. Member Dr. V. K. John will not then laugh so loudly as he does now because by then his profession will also have been taxed."

\* SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I quite realise that this Budget relates only to the second half of the current financial year and that we have already spent the money relating to the first four months out of the six months under reference. I quite appreciate the statement of the Hon. the Finance Minister that, excepting in respect of certain items, unavoidable items under the altered conditions, there cannot be any surprises in this Budget. But I do not know the reason why no provision has been made for an item consequent on a particular altered condition that crept in from the 1st of June 1953, namely, the introduction of the Modified Scheme of Elementary Education. An altered condition arose on account of this unavoidable item and the Government should have provided something for this particular item. Sir, the administration is headed by our revered Rajaji, a great administrator. He should certainly have brought in this scheme after making sufficient arrangements for personnel and finance. As, in the nature of the scheme, no extra personnel is needed now there ought to have been some provision made towards extra payment to teachers at least in respect of the extra work expected to be turned out by them as a result of the introduction of the new scheme. I do not know why an announcement was not made about the extra payment to teachers on the date of the introduction of the new scheme. Now, I see from the newspaper reports



30th December 1953] [Sri G. Krishnamurthi]

that the Government are viewing the question of enhancement of the salary of teachers in this way. They say that any extra remuneration at this juncture might be construed wrongly by sections of the public opposing the new scheme. Sir, education is above politics. Our revered Chief Minister has always been pointing out that this Modified Scheme of Elementary Education must be viewed not from a political angle but from an unbiased educational angle. But, why should the question of the salary of teachers alone be linked with politics? When once the scheme was introduced, it was but right on the part of the Government to have announced an enhancement of the salary of the teachers, at least commensurate with the extra work imposed on them on account of the introduction of the new scheme. Now, to say that some sections of the public would misconstrue an enhancement of the salary of the teachers consequent on the introduction of the new scheme is not proper. I hope the Government would immediately provide for an enhancement of the salary of the teachers who have put in at least 50 per cent of extra work from 1st June 1953, the date of introduction of the new scheme. Since then, our teachers have been shedding their blood; they have been working for six days instead of five days in a week and for six hours instead of four and a half hours a day. Naturally, they ought to get something extra. The Government have all along been showing their sympathy towards the teachers by stating on the floor of this House, 'They have our full sympathy but it is the question of finance that stands in the way. If only we have enough finance, we shall try to help the teachers.' Now, it was thought that the administration headed by Rajaji would have made some financial provision before introducing the new scheme. The factor of finance must have been considered, while this Budget for the six-month period was prepared, with reference to giving an enhancement of the salary of the teachers with retrospective effect from the 1st June 1953. This is a contingency that arose after the normal presentation of the Budget in March 1953. The new scheme was introduced on the 1st June 1953. All along the Government have been saying, 'The teachers have our full sympathy.' Now, they have just imposed extra work upon the teachers. They were already saying that they were prepared for paying higher salary to the teachers. Now, as they have made the teachers put in 50 per cent extra work, there ought to have been some provision made for additional payment, at least commensurate with the extra work imposed upon them. The scheme ought to be extended to municipal and other areas. I was really pained to hear a certain hon. Member remarking that this was not a scheme at all. This is a regular scheme. I do not claim credit for the introduction of the scheme. But I was really connected with the formulation of some such scheme in a certain way since the year 1945. This scheme is a scheme which just tries to transplant education from the foreign field to the indigenous field. This is a scheme which is going to revive cottage industries and resurrect village life. This is a scheme the necessity for which was long-felt. If we just want

[Sri G. Krishnamurthi] [30th December 1953]

to continue the old 5-hour schooling scheme, we will only be contributing, to that extent, to the impoverishment, unemployment and distress of the poor. If the hon. Members argue the other way about and say that they do not want any school at all, I can understand it. But if they vote for the continuance of the old, useless scheme of 5-hour schooling which has been creating only unemployment and producing unemployed and unemployable people, I cannot understand the situation. If they just criticize the scheme on its merits, it is understandable. But the proposition that because the new scheme is not very attractive or has not produced so much of result in such a short span of time, we must continue the old system of education, is not acceptable. It is better for us to go into the scheme more calmly and see whether we have done any mistake by reducing the hours of instruction. Sir, I can appreciate the policy of the Government in just saying, 'You, teachers, must educate so many children within so many hours in so many working days.' But the details of the scheme must be worked out by teachers. I think much of the hatred against the scheme is attributable to the fact that the scheme does not attempt at reforming the content of education. Now, the Government have simply taken away eleven periods out of the thirty-five periods and said, 'Well, you have the old system of education minus certain items as play, music and craft which need not be taught within the school.' Now we have to allot 10 periods for language, nine periods for Elementary Mathematics, one period for Drawing and four periods for General Knowledge. This method will reform the pattern of education completely and show to the public that they are leading the people to a certain state of affairs which is the real foundation for the solution of the unemployment problem that is being tackled at the Centre now. That would create some public opinion. Really, this scheme ought to have been extended to municipal areas also. We will be creating a caste, a separate caste so to say, by our not extending this scheme to municipal areas and confining it only to the mufassal panchayat areas. Again, this scheme must be introduced in higher elementary schools also. Sir, the argument of the Government that we must wait for some more time for enhanced salaries till the scheme bears fruition does not hold water. There must be some provision for teachers at least for the extra work that they are expected to do after the introduction of this scheme.

3-40  
P.M.

"Coming to the question of the Government's sympathy towards teachers, I put certain points for their consideration. There are so many things which the Government could have done in the past 18 or 20 months for teachers and many of these things do not involve any finance at all. I would humbly entreat our revered Chief Minister and the Hon. Education Minister to see whether they cannot give security of service to all teachers. Can there be any profession where a member will feel insecure even after so many years of service? In other professions and services, as soon as a member is confirmed, he feels secure in his job. Unless he



30th December 1953] [Sri G. Krishnamurthi]

commits grave mistakes, such as, dereliction of duty or gross neglect of duty, he will not be sent out of his job. But, here is a profession, I mean the teaching profession, where even a well-placed Principal of an aided institution has to feel that the more his salary, the more insecure is his service. Sir, I do not know what stands in the way of the Government coming to the aid of the teachers and giving them security of service. The Government must look into the matter and see that when a teacher is confirmed in his post, he should not be displaced by any person simply for the sake of effecting some savings to the management.

“ Even with regard to the question of uniform leave rules, nothing has been done by the Government. I earnestly entreat the Hon. Education Minister to look into these matters, viz., security of service and uniform leave rules which after all do not involve any finance and which can be done by a stroke of the pen and do something for the teachers.

“ Sir, I cannot leave certain things on the administrative side of the Education Department uncriticized. Last year, the Government or I should say the department interfered in a particular affair and banned about 75 Hindi Pandits from appearing for the S.S.L.C. examination. At that time, I entreated the then Education Minister just to interfere in the matter and permit those Hindi Pandits to appear for the examination. This permission was not granted. Permission to appear for the October examination was also not granted. I entreat the present Education Minister to look into the matter and permit these Hindi Pandits to appear for the examination at least in March 1954. In the previous year, the department took a wrong step in refusing permission to these Pandits. They quoted some rule which ought not to be applied in the case of those Pandits. They recognized a Degree which is not recognized by the Government and they left unrecognized a Degree which has already been recognized by the Government. The department committed a great error. Instead of rectifying their own error, the department people stood on prestige and did not permit these Pandits to appear for the examination. I hope the revered Chief Minister will kindly look into the matter and see that the grievances of these 75 Hindi Pandits are redressed before March 1954 and they are given permission to appear for the S.S.L.C. examination.

“ With regard to the untrained teachers at Pudukkottai, exemption has been promised by our Education Minister. Still, there are cases in which the department has been delaying the grant of exemption. I request the Hon. Education Minister to look into this matter also and see that such delays are avoided.

“ In a particular institution in Tiruvadi, viz., the Oriental College of Studies, the Nyaya section has been abolished and two Professors have been sent away in the middle of the college year. The prospects of these two Professors have been affected. I do not know how they are justified in abolishing a certain section of

[Sri G. Krishnamurthi] [30th December 1953]

the Oriental College of Studies in the middle of the year and sending away two Professors. I humbly request the Hon. Education Minister to look into the matter and see that the grievances of these people are redressed.

“ With regard to Provident Fund, something has been done to avoid delays in closure. I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Education that in a number of cases, there has been a delay of even one year. I request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and see that such delay is avoided.

“ As for general matters, several promises of relief for the teachers have been made in the past, such as provident fund-cum-insurance and so on. Our Chief Minister has been telling in his speeches elsewhere that paddy from the village produce would be set apart for the teachers. There has been a demand for house-sites for teachers. If nothing can be done for the teachers at this period when we have a great administrator at the head of the Government and when we have a Five-Year Plan according to which 2,300 crores of rupees will be spent for the whole country and something like 80 crores of rupees will be allotted for this State, I do not think this problem of teachers can ever be solved. I request the Government to look into this matter and see that the teachers of this State are afforded some substantial relief. I hope this point will be borne in mind when the budget for the next year is prepared. The Government need not spend even a pie from their exchequer. They can get revenue from the public by starting a fund, called the Teachers' Maintenance Fund. The Hon. Chief Minister gave an assurance in this regard on the floor of this sacred House on 8th April 1953. I do not know at what stage the implementation of that assurance is. I take this opportunity to request the Hon. Chief Minister and the Hon. Education Minister to kindly look into the matter and take such steps as are necessary towards the institution of the Teachers' Maintenance Fund.

“ I think in one of my budget speeches last year, I remember to have expressed the hope that Varuna would shower His blessings on us as our Chief Minister would do the right thing at the right time in the right manner. We have had plenty of rains in the whole State and all are expected to be prosperous. Everybody expects a definite fall in prices. We are really glad, that these good effects will touch even the poorest section of the State and will do some good to them. But, what about the position of teachers? Should not something be done for their good and towards their relief? It is my feeling that this is the proper time to start the Maintenance Fund referred to by me for the benefit of the teachers of this State. I request the Hon. Chief Minister to look into this matter. I hope at least the next Budget will, provide some relief to the teachers.”

\* SRI MAMOMED USMAN :—“ Mr. Chairman, I expected the budget to be a deficit one, but it is a matter for congratulation.



30th December 1953] [Sri Mahomed Usman]

that the Hon. the Finance Minister has presented a surplus budget. It shows great ability and hard work on the part of the Hon. Finance Minister.

" Sir, reference has been made to one or two important matters by some of the hon. Members who spoke before me. There is a suggestion that Prohibition should be scrapped. I do not know why a good thing should be dropped. If Prohibition has not been a success or a thorough success, steps should be taken by the Government to see that Prohibition is made a great success and a thorough success. My hon. Friend Dr. V. K. John said that the Andhra Government have appointed a Committee to consider whether Prohibition should be continued or not. I do not think there is any reason why we should follow the Andhra Government. Let them do anything they like. I shall welcome a Committee, if it is appointed, not to recommend the dropping of the scheme, but to suggest ways and means by which Prohibition can be made a greater success than what it is today. Of course, when Prohibition was introduced, the Hon. Chief Minister knew the difficulties that would arise. These difficulties have appeared on the scene and statesmanship consists in not running away from these difficulties but in facing them and finding out ways and means to solve them. This is the spirit in which we should view this question. I am sure the Hon. Chief Minister will see to it that Prohibition is made a greater success.

" The Hon. Leader of the Opposition during his speech on the last Budget brought to the notice of the Government the film advertisements disfiguring the walls of many of the houses in the City of Madras. I do not know whether the Government have taken any action in the matter. Such disfigurement is still going on and I have myself seen cases of disfigurement of private-owners' buildings and school buildings. The owners of the houses do not know what to do, as the film advertisements are pasted on the walls of the houses at dead of night. I think the Government will bring an enactment to prohibit the sticking of film advertisements on the walls of the houses and schools so that this sort of disfigurement may disappear as early as possible.

" Sir, lot of criticism has been made about the modified scheme of education. I do not think that there should be so much of opposition to the scheme. After all, the chief object of the scheme is to see that the largest number of boys and girls are educated at the minimum cost, to put it succinctly and briefly. While other States are trying to copy what Madras has done, I see no reason why we should drop it. 3-50 p.m.

" I was very glad, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister for Education, soon after taking up the portfolio of Education, made an announcement that in all Government colleges, professors would be posted on a permanent basis and no transfers would be ordered every six or eight months as at present. I think that is a very

[Sri Mahomed Usman] [30th December 1953]

healthy reform. I was educated in a private College, the Maṭras Christian College. The professors had been there for years and so they had a greater chance of impressing their moral and intellectual personality on the boys, than professors who came to work for only three or four months and then cleared out.

"Sir, my hon. Friend, Dr. V. K. John, said that what we wanted in India was a large party run on economic lines. Well, I do not know what he exactly meant by that. I have been in politics for the last forty-five years and I know many parties have appeared and disappeared during this period. Even today, there are many parties other than the Congress which make no impression in the country. The biggest organized party today is the Congress Party and I do not know whether statesmanship and wisdom consist in dissolving that party and forming new parties. We should remember what is happening elsewhere. Pakistan is making common cause with America by entering into a military alliance with that country. That is a threat to India and perhaps to the whole world. Unless, therefore, there is a strong party in India, a well-organized party in India as the Congress is today, our freedom will be jeopardised. Therefore, instead of asking for other parties to be formed, the best thing that Dr. V. K. John should do is to join the Congress (Ministerialist cheers) or to support the Congress. I have told Dr. V. K. John times without number that what is wanted today is a strong organized party and that the Congress should be strengthened in all possible ways in order that it may serve the country to meet any situation.

"Sir, it is a matter for congratulation that in compliance with the request of the Congress High Command, Rajaji continues to be the Chief Minister to-day. He has held the highest office open to an Indian in this country—the post of Governor-General—and if he is still here, it is because he wants to serve the country. We should all be grateful to him for continuing to be our Chief Minister and I wish him long life and health."

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the closing paragraph of the speech made by the Leader of the House, a special request was made to the Members to be very brief in their remarks about the Budget. He said that an opportunity would be given at a later stage, when the big Budget is presented to the House, to discuss the acts of commission and omission, if I may call them so, of the present Government. I have taken the cue and I shall be brief in my remarks. But permit me, Sir, to invite the attention of the Hon. the Chief Minister to a few acts of omission and commission of the Administration, particularly the Police Administration, and request him to issue instructions to the police to be more human, more humane and more sympathetic in their attitude towards the public. I do not want the police to cold-shoulder any legitimate request made by a member of the public. I would give the House a very specific instance of what happened three weeks ago. Away in Ambala, a



30th December 1953] [Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu]

young Christian lad of 26 belonging to Tirunelveli, when he was taking a Jet Vampire solo crashed to death. He had put in seven years' service in the I.A.F. He was working in the Military Department and the Military authorities were generous enough to charter a special plane from Agra to fly his mutilated body down to Madurai where the boy's parents were living. I may tell the House for information that the boy's father is a Deputy Collector on the verge of retirement. I was informed of the tragedy as I happened to be the boy's uncle and rushed to Madurai. I asked the pilots, who brought the dead body, whether military honours were given to him. They said, 'No.; at this end they will be given.' I rushed up to the District Magistrate and also to the District Superintendent of Police to enquire whether military honours could be provided at Madurai and, if not, whether police honours could at least be given at the time of the funeral, in the absence of any Military unit at Madurai. Sir, the District Superintendent of Police refused police honours. He had plenty of sympathy."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am extremely sorry that the hon. Gentleman Mr. Alexander Gnanamuttu did not think it useful to send me a telegram as so many other people do in much smaller matters."

SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—" Permit me to say, Sir, that it was at 10-30 in the night that I called on the District Superintendent of Police and again on the District Magistrate. I said : ' Here is an Indian Christian boy of my own district who has given his life on duty. His body has been brought all the way, some 1,200 miles down to Madurai. Won't you give him Police honours at least for a short distance from the aerodrome to the graveyard? ' They spread their hands in despair and said : ' Mr. Gnanamuttu, we would like to help you but the rules are not for it. ' I asked them : ' Are the rules against such honours being provided? ' ' No ', they said : ' They are not against but we do not want to create a precedent. ' I said again : ' Can't you consult your higher authorities and tell me? . The District Superintendent replied : ' I just consulted the Deputy Inspector-General who is in station. He says nothing can be done. ' Sir, may I request the Government respectfully that at least in future when young men give up their lives in this manner . . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Exactly the same thing will not happen. I hope not."

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—" Yet another point relating to the Police."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" You do not answer my query. Why did not you telegraph to me? "

[30th December 1953]

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—“ On the other hand, the District Superintendent of Police felt the Government would take him to task if . . . ”

\* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ I would certainly have been right in taking to task any policeman charging the regular practice, the warrants of precedence and the like. I would certainly not have taken to task any Member of the Assembly or the Council for sending information about his own nephew.”

4 p.m. \* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—“ I would therefore request the Hon. the Chief Minister to issue necessary instructions . . . ”

\* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ I am rather angry you did not bring it to my notice on behalf of your nephew. That is not how you should protect the interests of your nephew, dead or alive.”

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—“ Sir, references were made in the speech of the Hon. the Chief Minister and in the Budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister about excellent monsoon conditions and how we were going to have a very prosperous time. Unfortunately many parts of Tirunelveli have not been benefited by the monsoon. As a result thefts and robberies are on the increase. In this connection I would invite the attention of Government to two recent occurrences of robberies which took place during the last eight weeks and the victims unfortunately happened to be two women, wives of officers of Palayamkottai. Exactly eight weeks ago when the wife of the Superintendent of the Borstal School was sitting outside on the veranda at about 7-30 in the evening, the chain and *thali* on her neck were snatched away by an assailant. On the 4th December when the wife of the District Medical Officer was chatting with her children after dinner at about 8 o'clock in the night, again an assailant came and snatched away all the jewels that the lady was wearing. In both the cases the assailants have not yet been detected. If this should happen to wives of officers in Palayamkottai, may I bring to the notice of the Government how scared the public of Palayamkottai are and how absolutely necessary that better *bundobust* should be given to the public of Palayamkottai in future.

“ I would like to refer to a point already referred to by my good friend Mr. T. Purushotham about the age of retirement of officers. Again and again on the floor of this House, questions were asked about this. Such questions were raised on the floor of the Assembly also. It is the view of most of us that the age of retirement should be raised to 58 or 60. But the Government are not in favour of such a proposal at all. All the same we find that a certain favoured few are being given extension of service year after year in almost every department of the Government. May I



30th December 1953] [Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu]

in this connection invite the attention of the Government to what the two previous Chief Ministers have said regarding this on the floor of this House as also on the floor of the lower House. They assured that retired persons will not be re-employed. But here we find in every department persons are being re-employed. I am not against those re-employments, but I would like to impress on the Hon. the Chief Minister the necessity of increasing the age of retirement to 58 or 60, for in every case of re-employment, may I inform the House that there is a great deal of bitterness, disappointment and frustration. There is demoralization among the Government servants, and many people who have been long waiting for promotion are denied that promotion just because certain persons belonging to a particular community are given extension year after year.

“ Now, Sir, turning to education, I say I belong to the University of Madras and I am a product of this University. I am proud of the fact that I belong to this University. For the last 20 years or more I have been closely associated with almost every authority connected with the University. I may therefore say that if our University holds its head high, higher than most Universities, if not all the other Universities of India, it is mainly due to the administrative genius of that great man sitting to my right, the hon. Leader of the Opposition Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. During the last 15 years, the University has been making rapid strides. The advance made by the University is phenomenal, and it is entirely due to the great Vice-Chancellor who has been guiding the destinies of the University for the last so many years. So much so many of us however experienced we may be as educationists feel honestly that we are unworthy to unloosen the latchet of his shoes. About such a University, a statesman of this Government even made a statement that something has gone gravely wrong. That statement was made by no less a person than the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education in Udupi. He said Government must have some say in University matters.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ I have not made any statement that anything has gone wrong with the University. With regard to recognition I was wondering whether we should have some say. I was only thinking aloud. I had not come to any conclusion of my own in regard to this. As a matter of fact I had taken charge of the Education portfolio only recently. I did not make any charge and I did not say anything there as the conclusion which I had arrived at.”

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—“ I saw bold headlines in the ‘ Mail ’ ”.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ ‘ Mail ’, of course ! ”  
(Laughter.)

[30th December 1953]

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—“ And the word ‘ some ’ was given within quotations. Well, I am very happy, Sir, that the Governor of this State in a speech made by him recently has stated in so many words that the Government should not interfere with the affairs of the University.

“ Sir, one other word about educational institutions and organizations affiliated to the Madras University. Many of them as far as I know are starving for want of funds for expansion. Every time we apply to the Government for financial help they say that on account of the present financial position they are not in a position to render any further financial help. But I am surprised, Sir, when the Government are not able to help institutions which belong to this State, institutions which are affiliated to the University of Madras, they go out of the way to say that they will help an institution away in Udipi not affiliated to the University of Madras. Charity, they say, Sir, begins at home.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ They are at home, Sir, now.”

\* SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU :—“ It is not affiliated to our University. There are many affiliated institutions which are in need of assistance and it is the duty of the Government to help them liberally.

“ According to a recent order issued by the Government, teachers and even elementary school teachers have been granted permission to seek election and become members of local bodies, municipalities, the Assembly and the Council. But there is a snag in it. It is stifling in its nature. It throttles the teacher and prevents him from seeking election to any of these bodies. The order says that the teacher must sign his appointment if he wants to stand for election to any of these bodies. Teachers who want to stand for election must either resign or take long leave.

4-10 P.M. “ There is a threat that if any management were to retain such a member of the staff who has won his election, then the grant on his salary would be cut. My humble suggestion is to forthwith recall that order and suitably amend it.

“ Now, let me refer to Prohibition, a subject on which I spoke on previous occasions also. Unfortunately, the Hon. the Chief Minister is not here. Every time he turns a deaf ear to my request. Now I am not going to speak on that subject but I would draw the attention of the charming Minister for Prohibition to two or three drawbacks in this Prohibition Scheme. I am sure, she will agree with me that some of the permit-holders have obtained their liquor permits on medical grounds and I do not know why the Government should ask these persons who want to have regulated doses of this liquid solace to pay a sum of Rs. 50 for obtaining a permit. I cannot understand why, for renewing a permit, the Government insist on the permit-holder to submit another medical



30th December 1953] [Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu]

certificate; thereby the man has to pay another 16 or 20 rupees to the doctor. Also, I do not know why the Government charge eight annas as purchase tax for every single rupee of liquor purchased. So much is said about 'tainted money' and is this not 'tainted money'? Why should his tainted money be obtained by the Government?

‘‘ Lastly, I may refer to my own town of Palayamkottai and the water-supply scheme. The scheme was sanctioned and taken up almost 2½ years ago but the progress made is so snail slow that it looks as if it will take another three full years for the scheme to be completed. I would request the Government to look into the matter and expedite the scheme so that the people who are so much in need of drinking water in Palayamkottai may get it within at least a year or two. I do not want to say anything more. I thank you for giving me so much time to make my observations.’’

\* SRI T. M. NARAYANASWAMY PILLAI :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House has just now listened to a finished speaker and I hope the Members on the Treasury Bench would have been moved greatly by his speech. I hope his words would not have fallen on deaf ears. I am afraid I shall not be as effective as the previous speaker, in putting forward my suggestions and, therefore, I crave your indulgence. The Hon. Chief Minister has given us an analysis of the ratio of expenditure on the several services. He has admitted that the expenditure on Social Services is below the people's expectations. That implies two things : In a Welfare State, much more than 30 per cent ought to be spent on Social Services. Also, it indirectly implies that the expenditure on security services, which is said to be 32 per cent, is more than what ought to be spent on security services in a Welfare State. I tried to make a calculation for myself and so far as the expenditure on security services is concerned, according to my calculation, it comes to 40 per cent. It is immaterial for the present whether it is 40 per cent or 32 per cent. Whether it is 32 per cent or 40 per cent, what I wish to observe is the expenditure on security services in much more than that ought to be spent on them in a Welfare State. In regard to this matter, I followed the observations of the Hon. Chief Minister. In the observations there is a feeling of despondency and despair. He says, 'there is no use asking for a miracle'. We do not ask for it. While we do not ask for a miracle, we are anxious that slowly but surely the wealth of the people should increase. The national wealth and prosperity of the people should increase and there should be an improvement in the standard of living of the people at large. In this connection I quote what the Hon. Chief Minister himself has said—

‘ We have, however, to reckon with reality. In the nature of things, a poor people cannot get all that they want immediately. Much hard and sustained work will have to precede an appreciable increase in national wealth and the general standard of living. There is no use asking for a miracle.’

[Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai] [30th December 1953]

And proceeding further he says—

‘An improvement in the general standard of living, when no one is prepared to work more than he did before and no one is prepared to reduce cost of production so far as he himself is to benefit by the cost’

is nothing short of expecting a miracle to happen.

“These are two causes which he refers to. Now, if these are the causes, what is it that the Government in the Welfare State have offered in their Budget to remove these two difficulties? What is it that they have suggested to make people work more than they did? What is it that they have suggested to reduce the cost of production? Merely stating the causes and suggesting no remedy for them and no steps for removing them is not to perform the functions of the Welfare State. That is why I say there is feeling of despondency and despair in the speech of the Hon. the Chief Minister. There is no use merely making a statement and then keeping quiet, as though things could improve of their own accord. My submission is that the Government have themselves contributed to the operation of these causes in a large measure. If the people are now inclined to work less and are not inclined to work more than they did, is it not due, to a great extent, to the operation of several legislative enactments introduced by the Government in recent years and to the tax structure and its working? I shall not refer to the tax structure and its working at present. In my view the labour legislation of the Government is responsible for removing the incentive for work and for maintaining the cost of production at a high level. This should be examined by the Government. This is the time when the Government, before presenting the next Budget, should take stock of the whole situation. In 1930-31, when there was a similar shrinkage of revenue, the Finance Committee was turned into a Retrenchment Committee. They considered the whole position and arrived so to say—on a normal budget. What would be our normal revenue under the altered conditions and what should be our expenditure—and how should they be distributed as between Security Services, Public Utility Services and the Social Services. This is the time when some such thing should be done.

4-20 P.m. “I said that a greater percentage was spent on Security Services. In my view a reduction of expenditure on this item is possible. In this connection I would like to refer to the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member. He says ‘As a concession to Andhra sentiment, we had agreed to retain on our side, all non-Andhra officers employed by the composite state, even though we knew that the decision would cause us some embarrassment.’ This statement shows that deliberately they discriminated against the officers of the present residuary Madras State. The Finance Minister says further ‘The logical course would have been to retrench the surplus personnel, but in view of the distress it would cause, the Government decided not to resort to that solution on a general scale. This may result in some immediate uneconomic



30th December 1953] [Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai]

outlay, but the Government are making suitable administrative changes to minimize the wastage and to make the best use of these trained personnel'. I submit that this passage tacitly admits that the present outlay on personnel is uneconomic, that it is possible to retrench and that Government wanted to retrench but they did not do so. The reasons for not taking the logical course cannot be supported. When the Government admits that they are spending more on services and when they admit that retrenchment is possible, why should not the Government set about the task in right earnest and avoid the uneconomic outlay? This is what I wanted to suggest.

"I wish to touch upon points which have not been so far referred to by other Hon. Members and the next point I would like to suggest is this: On account of the separation of the Andhra area, our State has become deficit in food and the City of Madras has to depend for its food on supplies from Andhra. Recently I saw in the newspapers that our Government have agreed to an arrangement with the Andhra and Central Governments whereby the Andhra Government would be permitted to undertake State trading in rice and supply to us at a cost which would be in excess of the market price by Rs. 3 or so."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"Sir, on a point of information, may, I submit that the difference in price is not Rs. 5. One lakh tons of rice to be supplied to our Government will be at the rate at which it is procured. The only advantage the Andhra State would get is the sales tax on this quantity. On the other lakh of tons of rice which would be supplied on a Government to merchant basis, they would be charging only twelve annas more. I request the hon. Member not to suggest any further increase."

\* SRI T. M. NARAYANASWAMY PILLAI :—"Sir, I am not suggesting any increase but opposing an increase. I would like to say that in a transaction of this kind between our State Government, the Andhra State Government and the Central Government; our Government would be arming themselves with the authority of the public opinion expressed in the Houses of the Legislature and for that purpose we should be enabled to know the facts properly. What I wish to impress is that according to the Constitution, Part XIII, the Commerce is free throughout the Union; there are certain fundamental rights regarding freedom of movement and freedom to practise a trade; under Part XIII, commerce is free throughout the Union. I am not going to dilate on this subject having regard to the statement of the Hon. the Minister but let me say that in a matter of this kind, it is much better that the State Government should get the support of the people and we shall only be too ready to give them such assistance. The commerce of this country is, as I said, free and any restrictions on it could be imposed only by Parliament and even Parliament could not do certain things; certain actions are clearly

[Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai] [30th December 1953]

prohibited in the Constitution itself. No discrimination could be made against us as citizens of the Madras State. Certainly if our State Government have taken care to see that the Andhra State Government have not been allowed to make any discrimination against us as citizens of Madras, it is a different matter. I got disconcerted when I saw in the papers that the Andhra State Government were allowed to make a profit of 25 lakhs by imposing artificial barriers. That will be doing things prohibited by the Constitution. This is an important question and should be considered carefully by the Government. Otherwise, what is the use of having a common citizenship for the Indian Union? If we are to be discriminated against in spite of the provisions in the Constitution, the people in the State have certainly got the right to say that they shall not be members of this Union. I shall not dilate any more on this subject.

The next point which I wish to refer to is this. My hon. Friend, Sri T. Purushotham, was referring to Articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution and to the necessity for providing for the Backward Classes in Public Services in a more satisfactory way than at present. I shall not touch on the subject of reservation of posts in Public Services for the Backward Classes but what I wish to suggest is the establishment of a convention in regard to the composition of the Ministry. Under the Government of India Act, 1935, under the Instrument of Instructions the Governor of a State was instructed to see that due regard was paid to the claims of minorities of the different communities. The 1935 Act ushered in a democracy in the Provinces and it was parliamentary democracy. Even under the present Constitution, the claims of the minority communities like the Christians and the Muhammadans have to be provided for by a suitable convention. Sir, Muhammad Usman, the great leader of the Muhammadan community is now a great supporter of the Congress Government. The question is whether all Muhammadans are of that view. I know there is a feeling among them that their claims have been neglected. The question is, how to secure the whole-hearted co-operation of all Muslims? After all, everybody knows that in this State there is this question of castes and communities. We are in a state of transition; and we are desirous of moving towards a period when these differences are bound to disappear. But in this period of transition, we cannot afford to neglect the realities and ignore the claims of communities like the Muhammadans and the Christians who form a minority when constituting a ministry. They form a substantial portion of the population, culturally and intellectually, if not numerically. Providing them a place in the Ministry would not at all go against the spirit of the Constitution or democracy. Somebody was saying that the Hon. the Chief Minister was bargaining—not exactly bargaining—but trying to encourage and pat on the back members of the Muslim League in the Malabar district. The Muslim League would disappear if they are treated in the manner as suggested by me. What they



30th December 1953] [Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai]

feel is that their claims have not been recognised in a larger measure by the majority party. In this connection, I am reminded of the observation of a Persian traveller in respect of the Hindus referred to in one of the books of Sardar K. M. Panikkar that 'here are a fine people, a very nice people but the only draw-back against them is that they always think that their land is the best; their religion is the best and their language is the best'. This is what we suffer from. After all the majority of the population consists of Hindus and they are so complacent and would not see the other side of the picture unless they are forced to. The Muhammadans are not racially and ethnically different from us and therefore, if it is possible to give them their due share in the public life of this State, it will be doing a great service to the future. Political wisdom consists in recognizing their claims and providing for them. There are also a few people who say that Pakistan was the result of not having duly recognized such claims.

"I welcome the statement that the Government of this State will appoint a committee for examining the working of the local bodies. I suggest that a committee may be similarly constituted for co-operation. Once in 1930, again in 1940, there was a committee. Things have altered considerably since 1940. These societies are passing through a very critical stage. Yesterday and to-day two cases of misappropriation in regard to co-operative societies were referred to. This disease is not peculiar to these two societies but appears to be more widespread; the working of the co-operative societies under altered conditions has to be examined. I would suggest that as in 1940 a committee be appointed to examine the matter and place these societies on a proper footing. Co-operation is going to play a very big part in our future. The Five-Year Plan has given it a very important place.

"Again, Sir, I should think that the Government have done a wrong thing in appropriating a sum of Rs. 40 lakhs which stood to the credit of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board at the time when the new Hindu Religious Endowments Act came into operation. This amount was collected from the public specifically for a definite purpose. It ought not to have been appropriated by the Government and it could not form part of the revenues of the State. The amount which stood to the credit of the Endowments Board at the time of its merger into the office of the Commissioner should have been set apart and should never have been appropriated. Even assuming that it had become the property of Government, it should have been earmarked and kept separately for the use of the temples and services therein.

"With regard to the Public Services Commission, two orders of the Government, one relating to exclusion of disciplinary cases dealt with by the Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings and another relating to the exclusion of disciplinary cases enquired into by a Judge of the High Court, from the purview of the Public

4-30  
p.m.

[Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai] [30th December 1953]

Services Commission were laid on the table of the House lay before yesterday. These are infringements of the power of the Public Services Commission. This kind of infringement began in 1949 or 1950 and more and more encroachments on the rights of the Commission have been made. The latest is with regard to the exclusion of cases arising as the result of enquiries by a Judge of the High Court. If precedent is a guidance, there was an enquiry against a Chief Presidency Magistrate held by a Judge of the High Court, the Commission was consulted in respect of it. The Government, the High Court and the Public Services Commission are entrusted with different functions under the Constitution. The Public Service Commission must be allowed to do its duties and the Government should not encroach on its powers. The Public Service Commission is an important limb and it is necessary for the proper functioning of democracy. The Government will be adding to their prestige and following the Constitution by leaving the powers of the Commission untouched.

"The powers of the Commission are derived from the practice in England. This question has been considered by Sir Samuel Hoare in the Joint Parliamentary Report when he dealt with the reforms of 1935. According to this, a convention ought to be established, which ought not to be departed from, to the effect that the advice of the Commission in matters in respect of which it has to be consulted under the Constitution should be adhered to by the Government. The Members of the Commission occupy an independent status and the Government can expect disinterested and dispassionate advice from such an independent body as the Commission. I may say that the Commission must be a sort of Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in regard to employees working under the Government in all departments. Therefore I request that the practice which was in existence from 1935 till 1949 may be adopted. The Government have not given satisfactory reasons for these exclusions.

"In conclusion, the suggestions I wish to make are these—

- (1) more money should be spent on social services;
- (2) less money should be spent on security services;
- (3) the Government should examine the labour laws and their working;
- (4) how much of their revenue should be spent on social services; and
- (5) how much on security services.

(6) In addition to a Committee to examine the working of local bodies, a committee to examine the working of co-operative societies must also be appointed and suggestions received."



30th December 1953]

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ As I propose to adjourn the House at ten minutes to 5 p.m. only one more hon. Member can speak. Hon. Member Sri M. Ethirajulu will now speak.”

\* SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—“ கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த இடைக்கால வரவு செலவு திட்டம் சம்பந்தமாக இன்று விவாதம் நடைபெற்றுக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறது. அதை நான் ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது பொதுமக்கள் சுகாதாரத்திற்கும் அவர்களிடத்தில் தொத்து வியாதிகள் பரவாமல் இருப்பதற்கும் காலரா அடிக்கடி பட்டினங்களில் பரவாமல் இருப்பதற்கும் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய நலத்தைக் கருதவேண்டும். அவர்களுடைய தொழிலுக்கு அத்யாவசியமாக வேண்டிய டோபிகானு என்ற பிரச்னையை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு இந்த பட்ஜெட்டில் எந்த வரவு செலவும் கணக்குக் காட்டப்படாமல் இருக்கிறது என்பதை நான் வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். டோபிகானு விஷயத்தில் அது ஒரு சிறிய எண்ணிக்கையைக் கொண்ட சமூகத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களுடைய பிரச்னை என்பதால் அதை சர்க்கார் கவனிக்க வில்லை. காரணம் அவர்களுடைய எண்ணிக்கை மிகவும் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த தாழ்ந்த தப்பட்ட மக்களை ஜனநாயக சர்க்கார் கவனிப்பதாகவே தெரிய வில்லை. காரணம் அவர்கள் ஜனத்தொகையில் மிகவும் குறைந்த மக்கள் என்று சர்க்கார் அலட்சியம் செய்கிறார்கள். இவர்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் என்ன செய்கிறது என்றால் டோபிகானு விஷயமாக அனுப்பும் மனுவை பெரும்பாலும் நகரங்களிலுள்ள அதாவது முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளுக்கும், கார்போரேஷனுக்கும் அனுப்பி நகரங்களில் தான் இதைப் பற்றி கவனிக்க வேண்டும் என கருதுகிறார்கள். நகரங்களிலுள்ள முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளை நாங்கள் டோபிகானு கட்டிக் கொடுக்க சர்க்காரைக் கடன் கேட்டோம், கொடுக்கவில்லை. நாங்கள் என்ன செய்து என்ன கைவிட்டு விடுகிறார்கள். மீண்டும் வற்புறுத்தினால் மீண்டும் நாங்கள் சர்க்காரைக் கடன் கேட்கிறோம். வரட்டும் கட்டிக் கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி வண்ணார்களுடைய நிலைமை நாளுக்கு நாள் மோசமாகிக்கொண்டு வருகிறது. தேச நலனுக்கு இது ஒரு முக்கியமான விஷயம் என்று அரசாங்கம் கருதவில்லை. நாட்டின் சுகாதாரத்திற்கும் தொத்துவியாதி பரவாமலிருப்பதற்கும் இந்த டோபிகானு வேண்டியது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம் என்று அரசாங்கம் இனியாவது முடிவு செய்யவேண்டும். பொதுமக்களிடம் தொத்து வியாதிகள் பரவாமலிருப்பதற்கு இந்த டோபிகானு ரொம்பவும் அவசியம். அவ்விதம் வியாதி பரவாமல் இருக்க இந்த சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் பெருமுயற்சியுடன் வெகுதூரம் சென்று துணிகளை சலவை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். பொதுமக்களின் துணியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு போய் ஜனநெருக்கம் இல்லாத இடங்களில் ஆற்றிலும் குளங்களிலும் துணிகளை சலவை செய்து வியாதி வராத தருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் செய்யாமல் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் ஜனநெருக்கமுள்ள அருகாமையிலிருக்கும் குளங்களில் துணிகளை துவைப்பதால் அந்த துணிகளிலுள்ள அழுக்குகள் எல்லாம் அந்த தண்ணீரில் தேங்கி நிற்கும் பொழுது அந்தத் தண்ணீரை ஜனங்கள் குடிப்பதற்கும் ஸ்நானத்திற்கும் உபயோகிக்கும் பொழுது தொத்துவியாதிகள் ஜனங்களிடம் பரவுகிறது. இவ்விதம் வியாதி பரவாமலிருப்பதற்குத் தான் 50 ஆயிரம் ஜனத்தொகை இருக்கக்கூடிய இடங்களில் ஒரு டோபிகானு ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டியது அவசியம் என்று சர்க்கார் அறிக்கை கூறுகிறது. அவ்விதம் இல்லாததால் இப்பொழுது சலவைத் தொழிலாளிகள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த டோபிகானு கோரிக்கை பற்றி 1919-ஆம் வருஷம் முதற்கொண்டு சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் சர்க்காரை வற்புறுத்தி வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதை அறிந்த வெள்ளை அரசாங்கம் 1937-ஆம் வருஷத்தில் ஜி.ஒ. 1009-ன் படி டோபிகானுக்கள் கண்டிப்பாக கட்டவேண்டும் என்று நினைத்து சில முக்கிய இடங்களில் கட்டிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். சுதந்தர அரசாங்கம் வந்த பிறகு ஒரு டோபிகானு இன்றைக்கு கோயம்பத்தூரில் அதாவது கனம் நிதிமந்திரி இருக்கும் அந்த ஒரு ஊரில்தான் கட்டிக்கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது, மற்ற எந்த இடங்களிலும் அந்த டோபிகானு பிரச்னை எழவேயில்லை. ஆகவே கனம் நிதி மந்திரியை நான் ஒன்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இது

[Sri M. Ethirajulu] [30th December 1953]

ஒரு புது பிரச்சனையாக இருந்தாலும் வருகிற பட்ஜெட்டில் கண்டிப்பாக சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு டோபிகானு கட்டுவதற்காக நிதி ஒதுக்குமாறு பணிவுடன் இந்த சபையில் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். மற்றொரு விஷயம். இப்பொழுது சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களை சுகாதார அதிகாரிகள் சமீபத்தில் இருக்கும் குளங்களிலும் ஏரிகளிலும் துணிகளை துவைக்க கூடாது என்று சொல்லி வெகுதூரம் போகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதனால் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் தற்களுடைய மனைவி மக்களையும் குழந்தைகளையும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு வெகுதூரம் சென்று துணிகளை துவைத்துக் கொண்டு இரண்டு மூன்று நாட்கள் கழித்துகூட வரவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இதனால் அந்த சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் தங்கள் மனைவி மக்களுடன் குளங்களின் கரைகளிலும் ஆற்றங்கரைகளிலும் தக்க பாதுகாப்பு இல்லாமல் இரண்டு மூன்று நாட்கள் வசிக்க வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் பொதுமக்களுடைய சௌகரியங்களுக்கும், சுகாதாரத்திற்கும் முக்கியஸ்தர்களாக இருப்பதால் அவர்களுக்கு டோபிகானுக்கள் கட்டிக் கொடுக்க வேண்டியது அரசாங்கத்தின் கடமை எனக் கருதுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக சைதாப்பேட்டைக்கும் சேத்துப்பட்டுக்கும் இரண்டு டோபிகானுக்கள் கட்டுவதற்கு ஒன்றரை லட்சம் ரூபாய் கார்ப்பரேஷனில் சாங்ஷன் ஆனது. இப்பொழுது சுமார் மூன்று வருஷங்களாகியும் அதைப் பற்றி இன்னும் கார்ப்பரேஷன் கவலை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வில்லை. அந்த வழியாக போகும்போது வண்ணார்கள் எப்படி கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள் என்பதை ஒருவரும் பார்க்கவில்லையா? ஒவ்வொருவரும் கவர்னர் வீட்டிற்கு விருந்து சாப்பிடப் போகும்போதும், மந்திரிகளும் மற்ற அங்கத்தினர்களும் அந்த வழியாக போகும்பொழுதும் அந்த ஆற்றங்கரைகளில் வண்ணார்கள் அவதிப் பட்டுக் கொண்டிருப்பது கண்ணுக்குத் தெரியவில்லையா? இதை அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வருகிறேன். இதை ஒருவரும் கவனிக்காமல் இருக்க முடியாது. ஒரு சமூகத்தின் குறைகளை அரசாங்கம் கவனியாமல் இருந்தால் அதைப் பற்றி எனக்கு ஒன்றும் புரியவில்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக இந்த சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களைப் பற்றி ஒரு வார்த்தை. மற்ற எல்லா தொழிலாளர்களைவிட இந்த உலகத்திலுள்ள ஒவ்வொரு குடும்பத்தினருடன் ஒப்பிட்டுப் பார்த்தால் இந்த சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய நிலைமை எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்பதை ஒருவரும் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவில்லை. அவர்களுடைய நிலைமை இன்று கிராமங்களில் எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்றால் இந்த சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் முழங்கால் முட்டிக்கு கீழ் துணிக்கட்டிக் கொள்ளக்கூடாது, செருப்பு அணியக்கூடாது குடைபிடித்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது என்று வற்புறுத்துகிறார்கள். உயர்ந்த ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள் அவர்களை இன்னும் கேவலமாக நடத்துகிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக சிதம்பரத்தில் தச்சக்காடு என்ற கிராமத்தில்—அது சிதம்பரத்திலிருந்து சுமார் 7,8 மைல் இருக்கும் என நினைக்கிறேன்—ஒரு கர்ப்பஸ்திரீயை வண்டியில் போகக்கூடாது என்று சொல்லி, அவள் இரங்கித்தான் போக வேண்டும் என்று வண்டியில் இருந்த கர்ப்பஸ்திரீயை பொதுமக்கள் கீழே இறக்கி விட்டு கஷ்டப் படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். இதை அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்கு தீர்மான மூலம் அனுப்பியிருக்கிறோம். நாங்கள் தொடக்கூடியவர்களாக இருந்தாலும் தொடக்கூடாதவர்கள் மாதிரி ஊரின் ஒரு ஓரத்தில் வசிக்க வேண்டும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இதைப் பற்றி அவர்கள் யாரிடத்தில் போய் சொல்லுவது. அவர்கள் ஊர்கோடியில்தான் வீடு கட்டி கொள்ளவேண்டும். ஆனால் போலீசில் சொல்லலாம் என்றால் போலீசிலும் சொல்ல முடியாது. அப்படி சொல்லிவிட்டு அக்கிராமத்தில் குடியிருக்க முடியாது. யாரிடத்தில் சொன்னாலும் வரும் போலீஸார்கூட உயர்ந்த ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள்விடத்தில்தான் போய் உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டு அவர்கள் சொல்வதைத்தான் கேட்க முடியும். இந்த மாதிரி சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் கிராமங்களில் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கொடுமையை நீக்க இதை சர்க்காருடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வருகிறேன். இதுபற்றி சட்டம் இயற்ற வேண்டுமென கருதுகிறேன்.



30th December 1953] [Sri M. Ethirajulu]

“ மூன்றாவதாக கல்வி. இந்தத் துறையில் அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு தூரம் முற்போக்கு அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். 1931-ஆம் வருஷக் கணக்குப்படி ஜனத்தொகை ஆறு லட்சத்து எழுபத்தி எட்டு ஆயிரத்து ஐந்தாற்றி இருபத்திரண்டு பேர்கள் என்று சர்க்கார் அறிக்கை கூறுகிறது. சுமார் இந்த எழு லட்சத்தில் படித்தவர்கள் ஒரு சதவிகிதம் கூட கிடையாது. இந்த நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். காரணம் பொருளாதாரத் துறையிலும் அவர்கள் மிகவும் சீர்கெட்டிருப்பதால், இப்படிப்பட்ட 7 லட்சம் ஜனத்தொகையில் பட்டாதாரிகள் பத்துப் பேர்கள் இருக்கிறார்களா வென்றால் நீங்கள் ஒருவர் இருக்கிறீரே என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். மற்றொருவருக்கு குமாஸ்தா வேலை கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதே என்று பொருந்தாதபதில் சொல்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் கல்வி, பொருளாதாரம், உத்தியோகம் இவைகளில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்க வேண்டியது அரசாங்கத்தின் கடமை. இந்த மாகாணத்தில் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களிடையே நிலைமை இப்படி இருக்கிறதே என்றால் நீங்கள் தான் உயர்ந்திருக்கிறீர்கள் என்று திருக்கிறும் பதில் சொல்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கம் சொல்வதுபோல் எத்தனை சதவிகிதம் உயர்ந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று கேட்கிறேன். கணக்கு கொடுக்க முடியுமா? காந்திஜி என்ன சொன்னார். பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் முன்னேறினால் தான் நாடு முழு சத்திரம் அடைந்ததாகும் என்றும் அதுவரையில் அறைகுறையாகத் தான் இருக்கும் என்றும் சொன்னார். சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் ஒவ்வொருவருடைய வீட்டுத் துணியையும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு போய் பொதுஜனங்களிடையே வெளி அழுக்குகளை போக்குகிறார்கள். ஆனால் தோட்டி உள் அழுக்கை போக்குகிறான். இருவருக்கும் என்ன வித்தியாசம். அப்படி இருக்க ஒருவருக்கு கொடுக்கும் சலுகை இவர்களுக்கு என்ன இல்லை? நீங்கள் தான் தகப்பன், நீங்கள் தான் தாய், நீங்கள் தான் அண்ணன் என்று சொல்லுகிற நிலைமையில் அடிமைகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள் இந்த சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் என்பதை அறியாதவர்கள் உண்டா? ஆகவே கனம் கல்வி மந்திரியை ஒன்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். நீங்கள் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களின் கண்ணைத் திறக்க இலவச கல்வி கொடுங்கள் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். அவர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு டிபார்ட்மெண்டிலும் இருக்கும்படியான உத்தியோகச் சலுகை வழங்கும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் மற்ற ஏனைய சமூகத்தைவிட மிகவும் கீழ்த்தர நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பல ஆதாரத்துடனும், புள்ளிவிபரத்துடனும் நிரூபிக்க முடியும் என்று இந்த சபையில் சொல்லிவருபுகிறேன். இதற்கு ஆதாரமாக சத்திர சர்க்காரில் சென்னைத் தவிர மற்ற எல்லா இடங்களிலும் சலவையாளர்களும், ஹரிஜனங்களும் ஒன்றுதான் என்று மத்திய அரசாங்கம் கீழ்க்கண்ட உத்திரவுபடி சலவையாளர்களுக்கு எல்லாச் சலுகைகளையும் கொடுக்கும்போது இங்குமட்டிலும் என்ன வித்தியாசம்?

[List of Scheduled Castes in India recognized for award of Government of India Scholarships (corrected up to 1st April 1952.)

இந்த உத்தரவுப்படி அஸ்ஸாம், பீகார், மத்தியபிரதேஷ், ஒரிஸ்ஸா, ஆண்ட்ரா, போர்பால், டில்லி, பிலாஷ்பூர், திரிபூரா, உத்தரபிரதேசம், முதலிய இடங்களில் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும் ஒரேமாதிரி சலுகைகள் கொடுப்பதுபோல் இவர்களுக்கும் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் எல்லா சலுகைகளையும் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் கமிஷன் வருமுன் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குள்ள எல்லா சலுகைகளையும் கொடுக்கவானாலும்கூட உடனடியாக கல்விச் சலுகையையாவது இவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது கிராமங்களுக்கு ஒரு உத்தரவு வந்திருக்கிறது. அதை முழு மனதுடன் வரவேற்கிறேன். அதாவது வண்ணை, நாவீரர், மீன் பிடிப்பவர், குயவர் இவர்கள் தொழில் செய்தால் அவர்களுக்கும் அந்தக் கல்விச் சலுகையைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று இருக்கிறது. அது ஒருவகையில் நல்லதுதான். இந்தச் சட்டத்தால் அதிகமாக பலன் ஏற்படும் என்று சர்க்கார் நினைப்பது நல்லதல்ல. இதை கிராமங்களுக்கு மாத்திரம்

4-40  
p.m.

[Sri M. Ethirajulu] [30th December 1953]

விஸ்தரித்தால் பலன் ஏற்படாது. நகரத்திற்கும் முனிசிபாலிட்டிக்கும் இந்தச் சலுகையை விஸ்தரித்தால்தான் ஏதாவது பிரயோசனம் உண்டாகும் என்று உறுதியாக சொல்லமுடியும். இதைக் கண்டிப்பாகச் செய்துகொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்றைக்கு எங்கள் சமூகத்தில் மேல் படிப்பு படித்தவர்கள் ஒருவர் இருவர் ஸெர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் பரீட்சையில் தேர்வுபெற்று, viva voce பரீட்சைக்குப் போகும்போது கள்ளக்குரிச்சியில் பறக்கும் காக்காய் எத்தனை என்று கேட்டு அது எனக்குத் தெரியாது என்று பதில்சொன்னால், நீ லாயக்கில்லையென்று சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் முடிவு செய்துவிடுகிறது. அதுமட்டுமல்ல. ஜாதியின் பரம்பரையைப் பற்றி விசாரிக்கிறது. இந்தவிதமாக தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட சமூகத்தில் பிறந்த ஒருவன் மற்ற சமூகத்தாருடன் போட்டி போட்டு முன்னேறு முடியுமா? காலமெல்லாம் தாழ்ந்த சமூகத்தில் இருந்த ஒருவன் மற்ற சமூகத்துடன் முன்னேற வேண்டுமானால், அவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது தனிச் சலுகை காட்டத்தான் வேண்டும். அதற்குக் காரணம் அந்தச் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனிலே, தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட சமூகத்தைச் சேர்ந்த ஒருவர் மெம்பராக இருந்திருந்தால், சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் போன்ற தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களின் நிலைமையைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ள முடியும். ஆகவே, தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட சமூகத்தைச் சேர்ந்த ஒருவர் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனில் மெம்பராக கண்டிப்பாக இருக்கவேண்டும். இதைச் சர்க்கார் உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கின்றேன்.

“இதற்குப் பல ஆதாரங்கள் கொடுக்கலாம். சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனின் சோமகை இருந்த ஒருவர் இங்கு அங்கத்தினராக இருக்கிறார். வண்ணார் வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் யாரையாவது அவர்கள் காலத்தில் செலக்ஷன் செய்திருக்கிறா என்று கேட்கிறேன். இல்லவே இல்லை. அந்த நிலையில் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் இருக்கிறது.

“வண்ணார் சமூகத்தைப் பற்றிய நிலைமையை நன்கு அறிந்த நான் இதையெல்லாம் சர்க்காருக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்ல வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. நான் இங்கு அங்கத்தினராக வந்திருப்பதால், இவைகளையெல்லாம் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல முடிகின்றது. புண்ணியவசமாக இச்சமூகத்தின் குறைகளைத் தெரிந்தவரான தமிழ்நாடு காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டித் தலைவர் ஸ்ரீ காமராஜ் நாடார் அவர்கள், எங்களுடைய சமூகத்திற்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்வதற்கு ஒரு ஆள் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்தில், என்னை இந்தச் சபைக்கு காங்கிரஸின் சார்பாக கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார். கொண்டு வந்ததினால்தான், உங்கள் முன்னிலையில் இந்தக் குறைகளைப்பற்றி எடுத்துச் சொல்ல முடிகின்றது. இல்லையென்றால் இந்த யுகத்தில் கூட எங்கள் சமூகத்திற்கு இம்மாதிரி ஒரு வாய்ப்பு கிடைத்திருக்காது என்று குறிப்பிட வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே, கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களை மன்றாடிக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன். சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் மிகவும் தாழ்ந்த நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் இந்த நாட்டிலுள்ள ஒவ்வொரு மக்களிடமும் தொடர்பு உள்ளவர்கள். ஒவ்வொரு குடும்பத்திற்கும் ஊழியம் செய்கின்ற அவர்கள் மிகவும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு கல்விச் சலுகையாவது உடனே கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“மத்திய சர்க்கார் கமிஷன் ஒன்றை நியமித்திருக்கிறது. அந்தக் கமிஷனும் இன்னும் ஒரு மாதத்தில் வந்து, இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் ஒரு வாரம் தங்கி, இங்கு விசாரணை செய்துவிட்டுப் போய்விடுவார்கள். அவர்கள் வருவதற்குள் நாம் ஒரு கமிட்டி நிறுவி, இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுடைய நிலைமையை அந்தக் கமிஷனுக்கு அரசாங்கம் நன்கு எடுத்துக் கூறவேண்டும். அந்தக் கமிஷனிடம் எங்கள் சமூகத்தினுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச்சொல்வதற்கு ஜனப் பிரதிநிதிகளாகிய எங்களுக்கும் ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பத்தை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொடுத்தால் மிகவும் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.



30th December 1953] [Sri M. Ethirajulu]

“ஆனால் அதுவரை காத்திராமல், உடனடியாக கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் மிகவும் கருணை கூர்ந்து, சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு குறைந்த பகலும் எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸி. வரையில் கல்விச் சலுகை கொடுக்கும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் என்பது படித்த பட்டதாரிகளுக்கும்மட்டும் தான் என்று சொல்ல முடியாது. எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸி. படித்தவர்களுக்கு மட்டும்தான் என்றும் சொல்லமுடியாது. முதல் பாரத்திலிருந்து ஐந்தாவது பாரம் வரையில் படித்தவர்களிடையேயும் வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் இருக்கிறது என்பதையும் சாக்கார் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கும் ஏதாவது வழி வகை செய்யவேண்டும்.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“The hon. Member may continue his speech to-morrow. The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow.”

The House then adjourned to-meet again at 11 a.m. on Thursday, 31st December 1953.

#### IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. *Administration Report of the Madras City Improvement Trust for the year 1952-53 together with a copy of the resolution thereon of the Board* [Laid on the table of the House under section 172 (2) of the Madras City Improvement Trust Act, 1950].

\* 2. *G.O. Ms. No. 3240, Public (Services), dated the 17th December 1953, regarding the exclusion of the disciplinary cases enquired into by a Judge of the High Court from the purview of the Madras Public Service Commission* [Laid on the table under Article 320 (5) of the Constitution of India].

[30th December 1953]

## APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 31 asked by Sri S. B. Adityan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 30th December 1953, page 94 supra.]

*Statement showing the number of palmyra trees on patta lands in Sathangulam and Udangudi villages.*

| Serial number and name of village. | Number of palmyras partly dried up. | Number of palmyras fully dried. | Total number affected. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1)                                | (2)                                 | (3)                             | (4)                    |
| 1 Kudiraimoli .. ..                | 1,490                               | 300                             | 1,700                  |
| 2 Manadutandupattu .. ..           | 350                                 | 75                              | 425                    |
| 3 Paramankurichi .. ..             | 1,200                               | 500                             | 1,700                  |
| 4 Megnanapuram .. ..               | 430                                 | 275                             | 705                    |
| 5 Vemmarikulam .. ..               | 3,000                               | 1,000                           | 4,000                  |
| 6 Lakshmipuram .. ..               | 200                                 | 150                             | 350                    |
| 7 Nangaimozhi .. ..                | 150                                 | 200                             | 350                    |
| 8 Udangudy .. ..                   | 750                                 | 1,500                           | 2,250                  |
| 9 Kalankudiyiruppu .. ..           | 250                                 | 350                             | 600                    |
| 10 Kulasekharapatnam .. ..         | 450                                 | 150                             | 600                    |
| 11 Manapad .. ..                   | 250                                 | 75                              | 325                    |
| 12 Adiakurichi .. ..               | 1,000                               | 250                             | 1,250                  |
| 13 Madavankurichi .. ..            | 1,050                               | 150                             | 1,200                  |
| 14 Venkataramanujapuram .. ..      | 1,025                               | 535                             | 1,600                  |
| 15 Chettiyapathu .. ..             | 2,000                               | 550                             | 2,550                  |
| 16 Eluvaramukki .. ..              | 1,000                               | 450                             | 1,450                  |
| 17 Pannamparai .. ..               | 700                                 | 350                             | 1,050                  |
| 18 Palankulam .. ..                | 2,000                               | 500                             | 2,500                  |
| 19 Sathangulam .. ..               | 1,000                               | 400                             | 1,400                  |
| 20 Pudukulam .. ..                 | 2,000                               | 800                             | 2,800                  |
| 21 Nanjungulam .. ..               | 1,050                               | 500                             | 1,550                  |
| 22 Mudaloor .. ..                  | 2,000                               | 700                             | 2,700                  |
| 23 Pallakurichi .. ..              | 800                                 | 300                             | 1,100                  |
| 24 Komattikottai .. ..             | 700                                 | 400                             | 1,100                  |
| 25 Sasthavinallur .. ..            | 640                                 | 250                             | 890                    |
| 26 Naduvakurichi .. ..             | 550                                 | 200                             | 750                    |
| 27 Padukkappattu .. ..             | 700                                 | 400                             | 1,100                  |
| 28 Arasoor .. ..                   | 2,200                               | 800                             | 3,000                  |
| <b>Total</b> .. ..                 | <b>28,840</b>                       | <b>12,110</b>                   | <b>40,955</b>          |